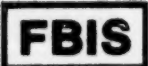


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17 March 1982

# Near East/North Africa Report

No. 2506



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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17 March 1982

## NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2506

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## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### BRIEFS

SAUDIS INCREASE JAPANESE INVESTMENTS--Saudi Arabia is continuing to widen its monetary investments in Japanese stocks and bonds on the Japanese stock exchange. It is now shifting to the buying of bonds of large, well-known industrial corporations. That is taking place after Saudi Arabia bought Japanese government bonds worth approximately \$9 billion. Japanese newspapers mentioned lately that Saudi Arabia was just about to own bonds belonging to the Sony and Honda corporations at a cost of 30 billion yen (\$133 million). These reports led to an increase in prices on the Tokyo stock exchange at a time when other Japanese industrial companies have been trying to convince the Arab Monetary Fund to start buying bonds belonging to those Japanese industrial companies. [Text] [Paris AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic No 260, 5-11 Feb 82 p 53]

CSO: 4404/321

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

EGYPTIAN, SUDANESE SPEAKERS' PRESS CONFERENCE

JN261253 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Feb (SUNA)--Egyptian People's Assembly speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib has asserted that Sudan can play an essential role in achieving Arab solidarity and closing up Arab ranks by proposing an adequate formula to bring the Arab brothers' viewpoints closer together.

In a press conference Sufi Abu Talib and Sudanese People's Assembly speaker 'Izz al-Din al-Sayyid held yesterday after signing the Sudanese and Egyptian people's assemblies' joint statement, Abu Talib said that all the Arab states agree to an Arab strategy but differ on the means to achieve and implement this strategy. He said that this strategy has only three alternatives: War, negotiations or shedding tears and appealing to international organizations to denounce the behavior of this or that side.

Abu Talib said that the Arab states tried war and achieved victory in the October war, one of whose great results was the imposition of peace. He added that peace cannot be achieved except by sitting at the negotiating table. In this regard he indicated the Baghdad Arab summit conference's relinquishment of war as a solution to the dispute. He said that Egypt had achieved remarkable results, most prominent among which is the evacuation of Sinai next April. He noted that the Palestinian cause had become a cause of people and not of refugees. Every house in the United States and Europe now considers this cause a political one in the first place and every word and line in the Camp David agreement points this out, he said. He added that some Arabs agreed with Egypt's style, but did not couple this with action. Others, he said, resorted to shedding tears and making appeals to international organizations.

Dr Abu Talib stressed that the U.S. role in solving the Palestinian cause, which is the crux of the Middle East issue, is essential because the United States has a direct influence on the Israelis, especially since Israel depends on the United States for everything from bread to guns. He added that the USSR had not undertaken any positive steps to solve the Palestinian cause. The contrary is true, he said, because whenever a positive proposal is put forward to solve the issue, the USSR places obstacles before it.

Abu Talib said that Egypt had done all it could to solve the Palestinian cause and is still waiting for any positive Arab move that can solve it without interference from the superpowers. In this regard he made reference to the recent

Arab summit conference in Fes, where the Arabs rejected Prince Fahd's initiative, which was described as a 100-percent Arab initiative.

He said that he saw during al-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem chairs with cards carrying the names of the USSR, the PLO, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, but that these countries did not turn up and preferred to avoid any solution to the Palestinian cause. Nevertheless, he said, these countries continue to maintain diplomatic relations with the United States and continue to sit side by side with Israel's representative and ambassador in international meetings. He stressed that Egypt has eternal links with the Arab and these links cannot be affected by any Arab differences regardless of their size.

At the beginning of his press conference, Dr Sufi Abu Talib talked about the results of the joint meetings of the Egyptian and Sudanese people's assemblies. He said that the two sides agreed on steps that would boost integration between the two countries. He added that this integration is progressing normally in all fields. However, he said that integration faces two obstacles, the first of which is that of financing economic projects. He added that this obstacle can be surmounted by exerting independent effort and obtaining international finance. The second obstacle is that of the different legislations and laws governing the two countries with regard to freedom of capital and investment laws, but it had been agreed to unify the two countries' laws in this respect, he added.

Dr Abu Talib expressed his and his colleagues' thanks to the fraternal Sudanese people and for President Numayri for conferring on him the republic medal, first class. He said that this medal is an expression of appreciation for the Egyptian people and the People's Assembly.

Sudanese People's Assembly speaker 'Izz al-Din al-Sayyid stressed the importance of the two assemblies' meetings under the present circumstances which require efforts to close up the Arab ranks. He said that the Sudanese People's Assembly would shortly tour the Arab states so as to explain the possibility of meeting these states' needs for foodstuffs. He called on the rich Arab countries to support the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples by investing in the two countries, particularly in the field of foodstuffs, indicating the expected food scarcity, the recent U.S. decision to decrease the areas cultivated by wheat by 15 percent and the resulting increase in the prices of foodstuffs.

'Izz al-Din announced that he had agreed with his colleague Abu Talib that each of them would ask his government to reconsider an increase in the air ticket fares between the two countries or to find an alternative by establishing a special joint airline for travel between the two countries. He hoped that further steps would be taken to achieve integration and unification of Arab ranks after President Mubarak's decision to stop media campaigns against the Arab countries.

CSO: 4504/207



SECURITY MEASURES DISCUSSED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1316, 22 Jan 82 p 18

[Article by 'Adel Malik: "Formation of Joint Gulf Force Follows Security Pacts!"]

[Text] Since the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], a dialogue has been going on between the council nations about priorities: Should security be first, or should the process of coordination in all the other various fields be completed. When the defense and interior ministers of these six Gulf states meet next week in Riyadh, they will find themselves once again in the same situation, facing the same questions. However, recent developments in the Gulf area will force the discussions of the defense and interior ministers to be more specific and franker than in previous meetings.

In the latest definition of the establishment of the GCC, 'Abdullah Bisharah, while in Bahrain, said that this council was established "to maintain the Gulf identity," as if the GCC secretary general wanted to say that this cooperative formula was formed among the member states in order to ward off "a special danger" which threatens the Gulf area. Therefore, in the "Manamah lecture" he concentrated on the importance of the security aspect resting on the council's shoulders.

What is happening today in the Gulf region brings to mind the Ta'if meeting of the Arab interior ministers, where the matter of security cooperation between the Arab states as a whole was brought up, but with special emphasis on consolidating this cooperation among the Gulf states. The conference chairman, Prince Nayif Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi minister of the interior, stressed the importance of security aspects in Gulf cooperation, being conscious of future political and military storms over the Gulf. The Ta'if conference concluded with some decisions that were more generalities than specifics, referring to dangers surrounding the area, requiring an exchange of information between nations about elements aiming at "sabotage" and about elements working in the field of "smuggling."

Perhaps the picture of the general situation in the Gulf was not clear to those responsible for internal security, as they were content with these modest resolutions. Throughout the discussions, a number of interior ministers from a number of Gulf countries expressed a desire to "raise the level"

of the decisions, in accordance with the criticalness of the situation. Those ministers went to the extent of demanding that "security pacts" be concluded between the Gulf states. However, this idea was met with some hesitancy, for fear that it would carry specific interpretations in terms of alliances or regional axis in the area. The matter of mutual security pacts was tabled until the level of incidents in the Gulf rose enough to give this matter new impetus, and forced the vacillators to drop their hesitancy. Perhaps what was uncovered in Bahrain represents a specific danger and is a warning to more than just one Gulf or Arab state. What's been learned so far is that the "plotter" constantly searches for weak spots in the area, in order to take control of it and alter the situation. There is a constant search for ways of infiltration, in order to cause this regime or that to topple.

It has become clear to security experts in the Gulf states, through their new enthusiasm to conclude mutual security pacts, that it would be absurd for an individual state to protect its land and sea boundaries against operations that threaten security, such as the surreptitious smuggling of arms and the movement of personnel who have received training abroad. In order that the GCC become serious and intervene naturally from one state to another, and so that the Gulf initiative will be different from the "general Arab initiative," i.e., not remain a pawn to reaction, security pacts were recently concluded between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, and between Saudi Arabia and Iraq. It is expected that other agreements will be concluded with Kuwait and other nations in the region.

The subject of Gulf security is not confined just to interior ministers' discussions. There is internal security, and there is "external security." This is what the ministers of foreign affairs and defense are concerned with. During the previous meeting of GCC foreign ministers in Ta'if, the matter of Gulf security was raised in a frank manner. If the Sultanate of Oman has been the principal trumpeter of Gulf security since the outset, the other GCC nations have not been against giving importance to the security aspect. However, these nations felt that what could be agreed upon should be implemented, without stirring up squabbles, since the subject of security was frequently discussed among the council members. However, the recent developments that occurred in some of the Gulf states--and Bahrain was not the first, nor will it be the last, as is clear--caused the council nations to conduct a serious review of existing priorities, and the faction that has been calling for the security aspect to outweigh all others won out.

In this context, Omani Deputy Foreign Minister Yusuf al-'Alawi told AL-HAWADITH that "the discussions held during the recent GCC meetings were extremely valuable." He added: "The foreign ministers, for the first time, seriously discussed the dangers and threats. They examined the possibilities and drew up a joint strategy to maintain Gulf security and stability."

Based on the recent developments in the Gulf region, those who call for the supremacy of the security aspect over any other say that "in the early days of the establishment of the GCC, economic problems held the place of importance with the member states, based on the principle the mutual interests tied the Gulf states together. This matter, by the nature of the situation, is reinforcing the work and coordination in the security and defense fields among the member states."

If "Gulf security" could be divided into two parts, internal and external, discussion about Gulf security would be automatically tied to the increase in the struggle between the United States and the Soviet Union over consolidating their footholds in the Gulf region. With regard to the rise in intensity of this struggle, and its taking on various forms and dimensions, voices inside the GCC were raised, demanding the creation of "the third force," meaning a joint Gulf security force, which would be tantamount to a Gulf self-deterrent force for the nations of the region. This could achieve the principle that "Gulf security is the responsibility of its nations and people."

The establishment of a joint Gulf force will be the principal point on the agenda of the GCC defense and interior ministers' meeting.

As for the Omani concept, which was accepted with reservations and sometimes with opposition by some of the GCC member nations, it is based on the following principle: "Building the self-defense force would constitute a security barrier against the dangers threatening Gulf security." In Muscat's view, the Soviet danger has priority. It feels that "building the Gulf force will lead to reducing the influence of the Western nations, since there would be no reason for American naval presence or a Western military presence in the region." The basis of this equilibrium is the GCC nations reaching the point of a capability for self-reliance.

Responding to the facilities that Oman is granting to the United States, the Omani deputy foreign minister says that "Even if the United States and the other Western nations were to reduce their presence in the area, or even withdraw from the region, the Soviet presence would not be withdrawn or leave the area. Consequently, the struggle would change from a struggle between America and the West and the Soviet Union to a struggle between the GCC nations and those nations that the Soviet Union supports. To put it clearer, the Soviet danger is a clear and present danger. It will never be withdrawn from the area, even if the West withdraws."

As proof of new dangers, some of the GCC nations sympathetic to the West add to the list of dangers the tripartite alliance between Ethiopia, South Yemen and Libya.

Information contained in the report prepared by the GCC army chiefs of staffs forms the basic dialogue for the discussions of the ministers of defense and interior, in order to determine the correct direction in which to go to defend Gulf security, since the discovery of the plot to blow up Bahrain was tantamount to an "early warning" of what the Gulf region can expect, and so that it may not be the "final warning."

7005

CSO: 4404/236

ESCAPE ROUTE TO PAKISTAN BLOCKED BY SOVIETS, AFGHANS

Paris LE FIGARO in French 24 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] Soviet and Afghan troops have managed to prevent the Afghan rebels from crossing the Pakistani border in the region of Kandahar, stopping the evacuation of the wounded.

According to the inhabitants of the Pakistani border town of Chaman, where all the access routes to the Kandahar plain end up, no Mujahid has managed to get out of Afghanistan during the past week.

The dirt roads taken at night by the resistance fighters are constantly under the surveillance of armored vehicles and helicopters, which before used to venture out only in the daytime.

The 2,000 Mujahidin of Kandahar, the second [largest] town in Afghanistan, who for a year had succeeded holding in check an enemy very superior in number, have had to yield ground to the Afghan army, which freely patrols the roads and has been able to set up some 20 checkpoints, according to the resistance organizations.

According to the same sources, the bombardments, which have produced several hundred victims in Kandahar since 15 January, have resumed on the villages of the outskirts where the Mujahidin have taken refuge.

The International Red Cross representatives in Pakistan have asked the Afghan authorities to authorize the repatriation to Pakistan of the numerous immobilized wounded, who are without care around the town, according to an informed source in Quetta.

Some stories which agree with each other maintain that the last attempt by the Mujahidin to run the border blockade ended up with 26 dead and 15 prisoners out of a group of 46 resistance members from several organizations, who fell into an ambush laid by commandos of the Afghan army.

CSO: 4619/58



## PROGRESS REPORTED ON PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

## Clean Drinking Water

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 20 Feb 82 p 3

[Text]

With the express goal of providing "clean drinking water and sanitation for all by the year 1990", the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade is beginning to make its impact.

Last year 13.6 million children under five years of age died in the world. Of those 13.1 million, or 29 out of 30, died in the developing world. Most of these deaths were attributable to waterborne diseases. In addition, every day throughout the developing world women walk miles to fetch the water necessary for the barest survival of their families.

Hours are consumed that could otherwise be devoted to providing better care for their children, cultivation of crops, or other economically productive activities, gaining education or training, or merely conserving their health and energy.

If the Decade's goal of "clean drinking water

and sanitation for all by 1990" is only partially achieved it could cut infant mortality by 50 percent, revolutionize the role of rural women everywhere, as well as have a dramatic impact on the economic status of the billion people in the world who live in absolute poverty.

Speaking in this connection UNDP Administrator Bradford Morse has noted that it was an indefensible fact that by today's standards people were willing to invest more and more to ensure petrol supplies for their cars, but not for the pure water essential to life itself.

Talking on behalf of UNDP, which chairs the Inter-Agency Steering Committee for the Decade, Mr. Morse said: "Let us pledge that in the coming Decade the fundamental human right to pure water is achieved for the millions of men, women and children, who are presently without it

and suffering indescribable misery as a result".

**UN and UNDP role**

To supply clean water and proper sanitation for all by 1990 new facilities will have to be provided at a rate to serve half a million more people each and every day of the Decade over and above the 2.5 billion people who need such services at the present time.

This will require a virtually unprecedented joint international effort in technical co-operation to strengthen national capacities, generate self-sustaining programmes, promote technical co-operation among developing countries and encourage and expedite the flow of external funds into national decade activities.

The World Bank has estimated that the total cost of meeting this goal could be as high as \$600,000 million (in 1978 dollars), or, by choosing suitable technologies for both the urban and rural sub-sectors and by prov-



Adding a wider mix of service levels, the cost could be brought down to \$300,000 million or less.

Given the worldwide economic situation and its impact on external aid contributions, the lion's share of investment during the Decade may well have to come from the developing countries themselves, with governments having to re-order national priorities to meet Decade objectives.

The effective co-ordination of United Nations system involvement with the work of governments in planning and implementing water supply and sanitation activities is a critical process which the

Steering Committee for Cooperative Action for the Decade, chaired by UNDP, has already begun.

At the same time, UNDP Resident Representatives have been assigned critical responsibilities as focal points for both inter-agency co-ordination at the operational level and for the support of National Action Committees in their countries of assignment.

As in Afghanistan in many cases, the Resident Representatives are assisted by Technical Support Teams from different United Nations organizations working in those countries.

#### Geological Survey

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 18 Feb 82 p 3

[Text]

The Geology Survey Department has carried out ten per cent more activities than what was envisaged in the plan target. It is the first geology research centre in the country. It was established in 1955, within the Ministry of Mines and Industries, under the name of 'Afghanistan Geology Institute. And until 1959, when the Petroleum Prospecting of north was established, it looked after the survey of solid minerals and exploration and prospecting of gas and oil. In 1962, the Geology and Mine Survey Department was established within the Ministry of Mines and Industries

and the Geology Survey unit remained as a research centre, its major tasks being preparation of geological maps of various scales, hydrological and geo-engineering surveys.

The above was stated by Eng. Mohammad Farwar, director-General of Geology survey, during an interview with the Kabul New Times reporter.

Further elaborating on the works of his department, he added.

The Geology Survey Department is a member of various world organizations such as Commission

for the Geological Map of the World, (CGMW) International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), Inter Union Commission of Geodynamics (Working Group) and Subcommission of Recent Crustal Movement for South Asia.

Since its inception, the Geology Survey has carried out the following major activities:

Geological mapping and prospecting of minerals at different scales, covering limited areas of the country, with the cooperation of experts from the Federal Republic of Germany, and preparation of related maps at different scales.

— Preparation of 1/1,000,000 map followed by a geology map at the scale of 1/500,000, covering centre and such of Afghanistan, and aerial magnetic survey of south-east of country with the cooperation of the experts from the Federal Republic of Germany.

— Geology researches and preparation of geology map at the scale of 1/100,000 of limited areas of northeast of the country with the cooperation of Italian experts.

— Aerial mapping of the whole country in 1957 and provision of aerial photos at the scale of 1/30,000 and 1/600,000 for the purpose of preparing topographical maps at the scale of 1/50,000, 1/100,000 and 1/250,000 and naming of the maps of the whole areas of Afghanistan until 1963, with the cooperation of Fairchild Company and that of the northern areas of the country with the cooperation of Technoexport.

— Geological researches and preparation of geological maps at the scale of 1/150,000 of Kabul and Ghazni areas with the cooperation of French experts.

— Survey and geological mapping to determine the coal deposits and gold in north-western areas of the country with the cooperation of the Soviet experts.

— Preparing the geological maps of minerals and magnetics of Afghanistan at the scale of 1/1,000,000 with the cooperation of Soviet experts, which was submitted to the International Geology Congress in Canada.

— Preparation of a mineral catalogue of Afghanistan with the cooperation of Soviet Union and United Nations, which was published in Kabul.

— Preparation of coloured geological maps of Afghanistan's minerals at the scale of 1/500,000 and publication of a book in Moscow entitled 'Geological Formation and Minerals of Afghanistan' with the cooperation of Soviet experts.

The Geology Survey is a scientific and research institute in the country, the prime task of which is to prepare geological maps of different scales, prospecting of solid minerals, geology researches, studies of subterranean waters and preparing related reports. The Geology Survey has 292 personnel on its payroll of whom 168 hold doctorate and engineering degrees and the rest are technical and administrative personnel, skilled and technical workers.

The Geology Survey is also helping in implementation of the Kabul Master Plan in the field of

geology survey of minerals, potable and industrial water as well as in the geo-engineering studies.

The projected plan in this regard envisaged the prospecting studies of geological mapping at the scale of 1/25,000 in an area of 540 square kilometres of Kabul and its suburbs, which is already carried out. The geo-engineering and hydro-geological drilling, as is envisaged in the Kabul Master Plan and asked by the Kabul Municipality, is successfully progressing.

In accordance with the Kabul Master Plan, the geology survey teams' work was concentrated, this year, in Kabul and its work continues as planned. The geo-engineering teams and hydrology drilling has carried out ten per cent more works than anticipated in the plan target, and compared to the given norms it has cost Afs. 1,298,029 less. The drilling teams has also saved Afs. 438,247 compared to the given norms.

The future plans of the institute calls for preparation of geological maps at the scales of 1/100,000 and 1/200,000 and if the conditions are favourable on the sites the geological mapping at much larger scales are planned for the future, added Eng. Mohammad Sarwar.

## Soap Production

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 20 Feb 82 p 3

[Article by Sayed Murtaza]

[Text]

The results of a series of studies for expansion and promotion of Afghanistan's trade and production have been very useful. The Ministry of Commerce with the assistance of the United Nations Organisations attempts in conducting such studies.

The studies will provide necessary information concerning the supply and demand for certain commodities and selected products in Afghanistan.

Among these products are soaps and detergents. Soaps and detergents, for the sake of simplicity, called soaps, include all products which, according to the classification are grouped in national statistics under specific code number.

In other words, it includes all sub-groups of soaps and detergents used for washing and cleaning purposes.

However, the study is concentrated, throughout this report, relatively more on bathing or toilet soaps and laundry soaps or detergents. Soaps and detergents are not only among the primary and essential products in demand by individuals and households, but are also used in every day life in all kinds of residential, recreational public places, restaurants, restrooms and for all clean-

ing purposes. Use of soaps and detergents in Afghanistan is common.

Imported soaps and detergents in the country are of various kinds, brands, names, specifications and from different sources. For example, Cusson, Imperial Leather, Camay, Lux, Dove, Gul, Palmolive, Pears, Jergens, Woodbury, Coal Tar, Barf, Tack, Tide, Clean Up, etc.

All kinds of soaps offered in the markets are generally in bars or in powders. Liquid soaps and detergents are seldom offered in the stores. The total domestic demand is met mainly from these sources.

The quantity produced traditionally by individuals and households in various parts of the country are mainly for self use. Data are not available on this kind of production.

Collection of information and statistics in this regard, at this stage of the project, is very difficult, or even impossible. The estimates and analysis of market size throughout this report do not cover this type of production. However, it may be guessed that the quantity of soaps produced traditionally might be significant and in the process of socio-economic development in the future,

this type of product will be substituted with those of better quantity and contents, supplied by the following two sources.

The quantity of soaps and detergents produced and supplied by domestic industries and the gap between total demand and internal supply, which is to be met by imports, were studied during the past three years.

Official statistical information available indicates that the consumption of soaps and detergents in Afghanistan has been increasing in the past.

The total consumption increased from 11,3 thousand tons to about 14,7 thousand tons in 1980/81 showing an increase of about 30% in three years. The share of domestic industries has been about 20 per cent to total consumption, while imports accounted for the remaining 80 per cent.

Data on domestic production, imports and total consumption of soaps and detergents in Afghanistan during the past three years shown in the above mentioned statistics.

It should be mentioned, however, that domestic industries are producing soaps as secondary pr-

oducts. Their main functions or activities are cotton ginning and press. In 1980-81 there were four such plants producing soaps.

Production capacity, output of each plant and total domestic production of soaps are given in considerable quantity.

Afghan soaps are produced by many small scale and traditional methods for self or local consumption. These production units are numerous but very small.

Data on such output are available by collecting reports. These reports include some statistics on traditionally produced soaps output. From the above discussion it is clear that at the present, total domestic production is not sufficient to meet total domestic demand for soaps and detergents.

The gap has to be met by imports meanwhile along with programmes for expansion of domestic raw materials, not only by utilization of existing plants at full capacity as emphasized in the current five-year development plans, but also by expansion and establishment of new capacities.

# NEW EDUCATION SYSTEM PLANNED FOR PRESENT REQUIREMENTS

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 20 Feb 82 p 2

[Editorial: "New Educational System"]

[Text] Our era—the age of significant revolutionary transformations in science and technology—undergoes rapid fundamental changes in all spheres of life. The changes are the fruits of today's incredible advance of science and technology.

By utilisation of science and technology, mankind have been able to uphold its domination over the nature and its abound wealth. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan took wide steps for progress and development after the Saur Revolution, especially its new evolutionary phase. The DRA revolutionary government is determined to build a new, progressive and ever-flourishing society and provide every facilities for the well-being and prosperity of all the working people of the country. It has rendered ample efforts to popularization of literacy among the masses, creating of new educational system and promotion of the standard of knowledge of all countrymen.

Attempts have been made so that a new educational system which will be responsive to the demands of the time and the requirements of evolution of science in our era should be created. Because, the revolutionary Afghanistan is facing with a host of reconstruction programmes to do away with the socio-economic problems and building of a new prosperous society.

Realisation of all these aspirations, fulfillment of the broad reconstruction programmes and rebuilding the new Afghan society requires adequate technical facilities as well as personnel and expertise who can play a pertinent role in the new reconstruction drive for advance of the young republic.

Undoubtedly, the new education system, compatible with the requirements of our era, can meet the dire needs of the society for the conscious, talented and devoted personnel. Fortunately, after



the new phase of the revolution, fundamental changes have been introduced in the education system in the country. Systematic transition to the new educational system, which we are now in its outset, paves the way for the conscious and patriotic youth to get equipped with knowledge and with firm determination contribute towards progress and great national honours and advance of Afghanistan.

The new educational system will familiarise our children, teenagers and youth to the latest developments in science and technology and will further consolidate the lofty patriotic sentiments of our people for further strengthening of fraternal ties among the broad masses of the people and the people, party and government as well.

We will build our new society with purposeful work and struggle, our powerful and talented manpower resources and vocational capabilities. The

new educational system will, undoubtedly provide favourable conditions for realisation of such aspirations.

The new educational system is aimed at promotion of the knowledge of all countrymen to such a level that our compatriots, equipped with vocational capabilities and skills in their tasks, take an effective part in advancing the backward society, evolution of the new Afghan society along with the caravan of the world civilisation.

As a first step, we try to eradicate the illiteracy. To achieve this end, precise broad plans are underway which will be implemented step by step. We are sure that by pursuing the principled and scientifically organised policy of the party and government we will not only eradicate illiteracy from the country but also will equip our youth and people with knowledge and the updated fresh products of science.

CSO: 4600/313

## CAPTURED OFFICIAL CONFESSES ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 2 Mar 82 p 1

[Text]

LONDON, (AAP) — A Kabul administration spy, Habibullah, captured early last month in the Maljaat area of Qandahar, has disclosed that huge amounts of money are being spent on collecting information about the Mujahideen's bases and movements, reports the Islamabad office of Agency Afghan Press.

Habibullah, one of five informers captured by the Mujahideen, told the Islamic court hearing their trial for treason that his neighbor, Captain Mohammad Salim Khan, in the Qandahar contention, saved him from conscription in return for spying on the Mujahideen's activities.

Habibullah was asked to establish contact with the Mujahideen under the guise of the sale of light arms and ammunition, and he was paid a salary of 16,000 Afghanis (\$400) monthly.

According to Habibullah, he supplied information to the administration about Jabha Mausoomia of Mullah Payo Akhund, near Chikni Pul, Fidayan-e-Islam of Musa Jan, Mahaz-e Milli of Haji Lateef, and the guerrilla force of Nijat-e-Milli.

The information collected by him on Jabha Mukhtar of Harkat-e-Inqilab-e-Islami near Char Dewal and the guerrillas of Mulla Malang was passed to Captain Salim. On the basis of information

supplied by him attacks were launched on the Mujahideen's hiding places with tanks, 122mm and 3 mm guns, helicopters and MiG planes. Each successful mission earned him a prize of \$100.

The informer disclosed the movements of the Mujahideen of the Hezb-e-Islami, Harkat-e-Inqilab-e-Islami and other groups concentrated at Minarah, Sher Ahmed and Nagahan to the administration. These groups were gathering for an attack on a large army convoy. On the fourth day the government forces attacked the marked areas with tanks, guns, helicopters and MiG planes.

Later, Habibullah was entrusted with the responsibility of unearthing the Mujahideen positions at Khawaja Malik. On his information Temik village came under heavy attack and dozens of villagers were killed. Habibullah got a reward of \$50 for this achievement. His latest assignment was to get information about the hide-outs of the freedom fighters in the Maljaat area of Qandahar.

Habibullah confessed to his crimes, saying that he caused the murder of hundreds of Afghans by providing information to the communists. He told the court that he was not pleading for mercy and

should be punished according to the Shariah. Habibullah was hanged following this admission.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Unity Mujahideen at Qala Bust, an area of Helmand province, killed 90 Soviet troops after bloody fighting. Ten Mujahids were martyred and 12 others were injured. In another operation the Mujahideen shot down a Soviet helicopter in the Marja area of the province.

According to reports, there were 30 Mujahideen staying in the Qala Bust area. On receiving information of this, Soviet troops surrounded them one morning in the middle of last month.

One Mujahid succeeded in breaking through the siege and he contacted three Mujahideen groups at a place close to the area. Two guerrilla groups encircled the Soviet troops and attacked them from the rear, while the third group attacked a nearby government office to divert the attention of the invading forces.

The fighting at the front continued until late in the evening, which broke the siege. As many as 90 Soviet troops were killed while six Mujahids were killed and five seriously wounded. During the attack on the government office, 14 Karmal troops were killed and four Mujahids were martyred and three others injured.

## FURTHER LIGHT SHED ON PROBLEM OF PORT CONGESTION, FOOD SPOILAGE

## Imported Foodstuffs Destroyed

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 6 Jan 82 p 3

Article by 'Abd-al-Wahid 'Abd-al-Qadir: "The Laboratories Said the Goods Are Rotten and the Decree Said 'Release Them!'"

Text Though the picture in the harbor of Port Said is very dark, that in the port of Alexandria, from which about 90 percent of the food imported comes to us, is no less so.

In 1981 alone, 50 million kilograms of imported foodstuffs were destroyed before they could be slipped in, ignored by people's consciences or the oversight agencies.

With everything that is going on in the shadows and out in the open, the question is: How can we be importing rotten food from their countries of origin? What is the role of our embassies abroad? How can we abandon good food to rot in ships out at sea, in warehouses in the port, or on the road to Cairo?

At the beginning, once the phenomenon of rotten imported goods that were subject to no oversight had become widespread, a committee by name of the Imported Foodstuffs Guidance Committee was established. This consisted of the first deputy minister of supply, the deputy minister for pricing affairs and expertise, and representatives of the Ministry of Economy, the General Supply Commodity Authority, the Export-Import Surveillance Authority and public sector companies.

This committee's activities began just last 1 August. It is devoted to the importing private sector, which presents it with preliminary invoices and requests for permits to import foodstuffs, stating the types, quantities, prices and places of origin. This committee holds meetings each week on Sundays and Wednesdays to review these applications and select the best bids tendered by the private sector, representing the lowest import prices. After that, the importers open letters of credit through banks to the account of the exporters or importers abroad with whom they have reached agreement over the types of commodity imported and their prices.

The cargoes are loaded abroad on refrigerated ships equipped for this purpose which have obtained certificates at the port of loading that the ships' refrigerators conform to the specifications for preserving the materials loaded.

When the ships carrying the foodstuffs reach the port of Alexandria, which handles about 95 percent of these goods, the ships, as Rear Adm Jalal Fahmi 'Abd-al-Wahhab,

chairman of the Port of Alexandria Authority, says, are immediately upon arrival brought into the inner harbor of the port. The office of the vessels' shipping agents notify the food oversight agency located in the port, from which a committee sets out to make a superficial inspection of the materials imported and take samples of the shipments from various areas in the ships' holds. These samples are sent to the central Ministry of Health laboratories in Cairo for chemical and bacteriological analysis.

The reports on the analysis of the samples then go back to the port of Alexandria again, stating the shipments' fitness for human consumption or lack of it (that is, rejection of it). A copy of these reports is sent to the vessels' shipping agents to take measures to clear the shipments if they are fit and deliver them to their owners.

In the event a report arrives from the Ministry of Health's central laboratory in Cairo rejecting a shipment because it is not fit, the owner of the cargo can appoint other experts, from the Faculty of Agriculture at Alexandria University, for example, or any private analysis center possessing expertise in this field, to take different samples from the shipment and analyze them. This analysis might correspond to that of the Ministry of Health laboratory, or might differ from it in part or totally. However, the certificate and the report by these bodies are not accredited!

Ultimately the Ministry of Health reports accepting or rejecting the shipments are final. In the latter case, the Port of Alexandria Authority requests a re-examination of the shipments by the Ministry of Health, which draws up another committee to take samples and analyze them in Cairo. In the event they are not fit the second time around, the Port Authority destroys the shipments or re-exports them!

At this point Ahmad Ramzi Sa'd, general manager of cargo movements in the port of Alexandria, states that 60 shipments of foodstuffs were destroyed in 1981, which had come in in a million boxes containing all types of imported foodstuffs, including, for example, frozen meat, poultry, turkey parts, liver, cheese, cans of tomato sauce, luncheon meats, corned beef, juices, eggs and other different varieties, weighing about 50 million kilograms.

In addition there were the materials recently destroyed in the port, in the months of October and November, when 3.5 million rotten eggs were destroyed that had been brought in on the ship Abu-al-Fida after provocative stories had been circulated in the Ministry of Health decrees and by experts of the Faculty of Agriculture and Dutch experts!

In addition 16 "containers" of rotten cheese weighing 320 tons were destroyed in October:

Eleven containers of liver and rotten meat weighing 220 tons were also destroyed!

Recently, four containers of rotten liver weighing 80 tons were destroyed in the month of December. Most of these commodities had been brought in at private sector expense!

These tremendous volumes of foodstuffs which are rotten, or rot after passing out of the port, and which we happen to discover from time to time, lead us to ask an



important question which is being raised today in order to put a limit to forces which affect the heart and soul of people's health, filling some people's pockets with a plethora of illicit wealth! That is: how did these commodities rot, and who was responsible for the fact that they did rot?

The answer is in the words of the experts on and importers of the foodstuffs, who attribute the reasons to a number of points:

First, the contracts are reached in accordance with permits from the Imported Foodstuffs Guidance Committee, which gives agreement to the lowest prices without looking into the type or quality of the goods or approving them before giving permission for the permits to be granted.

In addition they do not approve the type of surveillance that exists in the countries exporting the commodities they export. Commodities that come from countries in America [sic] are subjected to strict oversight by the Food Inspection Authority of the American Department of Agriculture from the time the commodity is produced and processed until its date of export. Therefore commodities coming from these countries rarely are or become rotten as a consequence of a lack of adequate cooling facilities in the ports of departure.

However, as regards goods coming from countries such as Australia, Argentina or New Zealand, for example, from which there are no direct shipping routes to Egypt, the shipments coming in are handled in a number of ports and moved in containers from one ship to a number of ports and moved in containers from one ship to another. This can lead to spoilage of the commodities as a result of handling and changes in temperature. In addition there are no stringent foodstuff export surveillance agencies in these countries!

There might also be some devious conduct between importers and exporters regarding the quality of these goods and the extent to which they are fit for human consumption.

Here foreign surveillance over these contracts is required, and that should be done through our commercial bureaus abroad!

When the commodities reach Egyptian ports, especially the port of Alexandria, which handles most of them, samples of them, after being sent from Alexandria to Cairo, are analyzed in the Ministry of Health central laboratory or the Veterinary Health Institute in al-Jizah. Generally the samples are shipped in trucks which are not equipped with refrigerators and the samples rot en route, as a result of emerging from 20 degrees below zero in the ship's hold into higher temperatures. Worse than that, the time for the analysis of the samples and for sending reports to the port of Alexandria takes from 1 to 3 months!

In this case, the food cargo ships wait in the port lengthens; this year the average is seven ship-days. The containers in which these commodities are placed are unloaded either into the Customs Department warehouses or into the importers' warehouses, and most of these warehouses are not outfitted with the necessary cooling and ventilation to keep these commodities. Sometimes they are kept in the importers' refrigerators, since there are no refrigerators inside the port; at this point the importers are compelled to pile the goods up in their inadequate refrigerators without paying attention to technical storage principles.



In addition, the electricity in most of these refrigerators is cut off constantly, resulting in fluctuations in the temperature and ventilation inside them: that results in wastage of the goods. It is well known that these refrigerators do not accommodate more than 25 percent of the imported goods.

Finally, the Port of Alexandria Authority has decided to erect a refrigerator with a capacity of 6,000 tons inside the port, but that will not be adequate to solve the problem!

Most unfortunately, there are two complete well-equipped laboratories in Alexandria to analyze samples. One is on Sidi Abu al-Darda' Street near the port, and the other is the Ministry of Agriculture veterinary health laboratory on Cairo Station Street. However, they are completely idle, and the reason is unknown!

In addition there are laboratories located in the Faculty of Agriculture at Alexandria University. Meanwhile, the law compels the official body performing the analysis to inform the shipment owner of the analysis results, accepting or rejecting the sample, within 6 days of taking the sample.

Here these laboratories must be put to use immediately for the rapid analysis of samples and they must not be sent to Cairo, as is the case in all countries of the world where there are analysis laboratories in the ports!

The Port of Alexandria Authority has also set aside a building inside the port to function as a laboratory for rapidly investigating shipments. It has informed the Food Oversight Agency in the port; that has sent a committee to inspect the location, whose suitability was established 3 months ago -- but so far there have been no signs of life for those calling for it!

#### The Farce of Shipments to Distribution Centers

Food experts, as well as some importers of foodstuffs, say that 90 percent of imported foodstuffs are shipped from the port to Cairo in open vehicles that are not equipped with refrigerators. The refrigerator trucks that do exist in the country are not enough to ship more than 10 percent of the quantities imported; the rest is shipped by ordinary means!

A journey to ship these goods from the port to Cairo, especially in summer months, is enough to spoil these shipments completely, and afterwards there is no point re-freezing them.

Here it is necessary that a transport fleet be outfitted with refrigerators conforming to the cooling specifications under which the goods are brought in from abroad, in order to save the goods from wastage on the shipment journey. That is a phenomenon anyone can see on the road, noticing how the frozen meat appears on these trucks, melting with the blood trickling off them!

Some companies that have preparation and rendering plants in Cairo, such as the transit and shipment firms, as the commodity experts say, import bad grades of frozen goods and the leftovers of cured meats, 90 percent of which are generally rotten, proof of that is that most of these companies' shipments are destroyed in the port along with those of some importers, who number in the hundreds!

In conclusion, a vicious circle binds up this whole immoral chain, and that is the agencies of oversight, inspection and preservation of these goods, which are met with intense negligence and neglect.

#### Food Poisoning Cases Investigated

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 24 Dec 81 pp 1, 10

[Article: "The Incident of the Students' Poisonings: Chief of the North Cairo Area Educational Region Is Arrested"]

[Text] Counsellor Mahir al-Jindi, public lawyer for the office of the North Cairo public prosecutor, has ordered the imprisonment of Ahmed 'Abd-al-Rahman Hasan Saqr, the superintendent of food who had brought rotten cheese into the north Cairo educational region, resulting in the poisoning of 90 pupils, 10 of them in schools in al-Zawiyah al-Hamra'. He also ordered that the superintendent's two brothers be released on bail of 200 pounds each.

The public lawyer also ordered the arrest of Mahmud Abu-al-Nur, chief of the North Cairo area educational sector, for investigation into the accusations made against him by the superintendent of the al-Yarmuk primary school in al-Zawiyah al Hamra', who discovered that some Mesto cheese had rotted and gone bad last 19-20 December, ordered that it be destroyed by fire, and said so in writing in a memorandum he presented to Abu-al-Nur, though he refused to receive it on the claim that it had not been properly sealed:

So far the prosecutor's office investigations have revealed a total lack of health surveillance on the part of either the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Health, since it is only the school health officer, the 'health visitor,' who performs this task, and she is not adequately trained in this function.

The investigations also revealed that the schools that are subject to the system of student meals are absolutely not equipped with means for keeping the food and that quantities of cheese are stored in Ideal chests inside the school superintendents' rooms. The investigations revealed that that system has been applied in accordance with an official publication by the Ministry of Education distributed to the schools last 16 December.

The investigations revealed what little importance had been attached to the health and lives of students in primary schools. When the food superintendent was asked about his responsibility for the incident, he replied by stating "Food poisoning does not occur in the manner we are accustomed to. I believe that the reason is the presence of some itinerant vendors in the schools." He went on to say that the affliction of 90 pupils is a minor amount when compared with the 43,000 students to whom food is supplied.

In the investigations which were assumed by Sha'ban al-Shami, the director of the offices of the public prosecutor of al-Sharabiyah and al-Zawiyah al-Hamra', and Fu'ad Najib and Baligh Kemal, the deputy public prosecutors of al-Sharabiyah, which were supervised by Counsellor Mahir al-Jindi, the public lawyer for the office of the North Cairo public prosecutor, the first accused, Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman Musa Saqr, the food supply overseer, stipulated that he had assumed food supply operations in the North Cairo educational area as a subcontractor for a person named Mahmud Husayn Safwat, who assumed that job as a subcontractor from the consumer cooperative society of al-Minufiyah Governorate, after the bid had been awarded to him on 16 December 1981/sic/, until 30 June 1981, providing portions of Nesto cheese, 40-gram biscuit packages, and half a disc of common bread per pupil per day during the week. As regards the Nesto Cheese, that has been provided locally from the Egypt Dairy Company output or imported; he said that he was not able to obtain cheese from the Egypt Company so he resorted to buying imported cheese of the Baj'ah and 'Arubah brands from private sector companies and public sector companies in the General Consumer Commodity Cooperative Society on al-Jumhuriyah Street, the private sector al-Tawfiq Trade and Foodstuffs Company on Port Said Street, the Eastern Products shops on Port Said Street, and the Three Brothers' Shops on Port Said Street. That imported cheese is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, which clears it after analyzing samples of it and applying local market specifications to them.

He added that he buys cheese in sealed crates, most of which he delivers sealed to the schools, which are 42 in number, in quantities which are adequate for from 4 days to a week, and delivers ordinary bread to each school from 0600 hours in the morning until 0900 hours. The accused person put the responsibility for the rotten cheese on the merchant from whom he bought it and the Ministry of Health, which cleared it. The investigator accused him of cheating and committing wrongful acts of poisoning students and knowingly presenting rotten food.

The second accused person, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman Musa Saqr, denied that he pursued supply activities with his brother.

The third accused person, Mahmud 'Abd-al-Rahman Musa Saqr, asserted that he owned a pickup truck and that the entity in charge of providing food for the North Cairo educational area was the al-Minufiyah Governorate Cooperative Society, along with his brother Ahmad Saqr, who was given the job of subcontractor.

Salah Bulus Shannudah, North Cairo educational area food inspector, stipulated that they had made a contract with the Bisco Misr company to supply quantities of biscuits for the month of December and that the company did provide them for a day, then failed to provide supplies. Finally, the bid was awarded by negotiation to the al-Minufiyah Governorate Consumer Cooperative Society, as its was the lowest price. A publication was distributed concerning the instructions that had to be followed on the disposition of food in schools, spelling out the schools' responsibilities. The witness declared that they were facing a problem in storing the volumes of food that had been supplied them.

The office of the public prosecutor also interrogated the merchants Bayn-al-Surayn Hasan Muhammad Hasan, manager of the al-Tawfiqiyah Trading Company, 'Ala-al-Din Muhammad Sayyid, manager of the Three Brothers' Trading Company, and Muhammad Badawi, superintendent of the General Commodities Consumer Cooperative Society warehouse on Shubra Street, regarding the food superintendent's charge that they had supplied him with rotten cheese.



Counsellor Salah al-Rashidi, the public prosecutor, and Counsellor Muhammad 'Ammam, the public lawyer for the office of the Cairo appeals prosecutor, are following up on the results of the investigation as they come in.

In another development, 10 new poisoning cases broke out in the Heroes of Ramadan School next to the first school where the poisoning attacks had occurred; the continued serving of rotten meals was proved, in spite of the decree suspending the distribution, and the 10 people afflicted were given immediate first aid.

The documents unearthed by the broad market survey campaign led by Col 'Abdallah Ghallush, Cairo supply investigation chief, on instructions from Maj Gen Salah Amin, Cairo security director, revealed that the shipment of rotten cheese which the Finnish bureau had imported reached Alexandria on 25 October 1981 and was cleared on 16 November 1981 by a health certificate written out on 10 November. The security director observed that the health clearance certificate on the shipment, which came to 16,250 boxes, took only 1 month. He also observed that the quantities of this type of cheese seized exceeded the volume imported, which raised questions on the information about the quantity imported and whether old shipments had been distributed along with the new one. That was to be discovered through investigation. It was apparent that the director of the Finnish bureau which imported the shipment was abroad on vacation.

In addition, 700 boxes of a third type of cheese, of the al-Banjawan brand, were discovered, and it was evident from a superficial examination of them that they were rotten. They were retained until they could be analyzed.

In another area, the Governorate of Cairo determined to adopt a number of rapid, decisive measures to cope with the issue of the rotten food distributed among school students or sold in the markets; to intensify the food inspectors' campaigns in all distribution outlets and foodstuffs sales areas in order to detain volumes of processed cheese that were in violation or suspected of being so within 48 hours; to abrogate the contracting agreement with the consumer cooperative society in al-Minufiyah which was supplying food for the Cairo schools; to adopt all legal measures against it; and to reach agreement with the public sector schools and authorized suppliers. Mr Sa'd Ma'mun, the governor of Cairo, also agreed with Eng Taha Zaki, the minister of industry, to study the possibility of supplying 200,000 portions of Nesto cheese and 200,000 packages of biscuits per day produced by the public sector in order to feed students in Cairo Governorate schools during the academic year.

The governor of Cairo held a working meeting yesterday attended by Maj Gen Salah Amin, the security director, Dr Muhammad al-Amin, the deputy minister for health affairs, Ahmad Hilni Hijazi, the deputy minister for supply, and Sa'diyah Jabir, the deputy minister of education, to discuss the situation in the light of the preliminary results of the investigations underway on the rotten food case. The governorate has decided to have the Security Department, with the participation of the Health and Supply Departments, continue to inspect all shops belonging to the public and private sectors to seize all quantities of al-Baj'ah and (Sumalib) brand imported cheeses that have been offered or stored, along with any other types of food that are in violation or are suspected of being so.

The governorate also issued a statement urging citizens not to eat imported processed cheeses that have been offered or stored, along with any other types of food that are in violation or are suspected of being so.

The governorate also issued a statement urging citizens not to eat imported processed types of cheese or any cans or other containers of imported foodstuffs that do not contain data on the date of manufacture, the date of validity, and the entity through which they are imported, and stated that it was necessary that the importers and sellers of the imported food keep the health clearance certificates from the competent agencies and present these to the oversight agencies upon demand.

#### Food Spoilage Scandal

Cairo AL-'UMMAL in Arabic 4 Jan 82 p 6

Article by Dr Rashid al-Barrawi: "How Long Must This Chaos Last? Tragic and Comic Aspects of the Incidents of Rotten Imported Goods!"

Text People, it seems, have forgotten the insane increases in prices of different types of fruit and vegetables, all locally produced. They have forgotten the subsidy cases and the strange status of the Egyptian pound in its own country. They have been attaching no importance to the events in Poland or the Israeli decree on Golan. This is because the newspapers, the media and other sources have been pre-occupying them with a new subject, which is the poisoning of a few dozen school students who ate some rotten imported cheese. The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH, on the 23rd, mentioned that 16 million pieces of rotten cheese had been seized in Cairo, al-Gharibiyah and Alexandria. The following day the same newspaper said that 11 new cases of poisoning had been caused by the cheese in a school in east Cairo, and the newspaper AL-AKHBAR, in its issue of 27 December, spoke about the seizure of tens of thousands of packages of spoiled al-Bajjah and al-Banjawan brand cheese during an inspection by the importing Finnish Commercial Office.

It was normal that the responsible bodies should make it seem, up to the writing of these lines, that they have been ceaselessly active. The Ministries of Education, Supply, Health and Interior, the agencies of Cairo Governorate, and the judiciary bodies concerned are taking charge of the investigation, inspection and scrutiny, and we have read that individuals who have a connection with the distribution of these quantities of cheese have been arrested.

#### Something That Draws One's Attention

In spite of the importance and urgency of the measures mentioned and the like, something which really must draw one's attention is the fact that the rotten cheese is imported; we had previously heard about rotten food in the form of meat, poultry and tomato sauce, all of which was also imported. That is, these materials and their likes were fortunately not produced locally. How can this phenomenon be explained? It appears, God only knows, that there are bodies, groups or gangs abroad that sought to benefit from the liberalization policy and the "gringo complex" among many groups of Egyptians and the short supply of some foodstuffs, and thought or imagined that this country, that is, Egypt, would accept all the commodities shipped to it which had been rejected in the countries that produced them - that is, more accurately, that this country would never inspect the materials shipped to it. You can find this



kind of thinking among local people with desires who are represented by strange new groups that have been brought to the fore by society in the last few years. These desires are represented by the quest for rapid enrichment by any means whatever. In other words, they are a tribe of importers and exporters who base their activities on the notion that Egypt is the country most likely to purchase this sort of garbage in the form of foodstuffs. That encourages them to follow this path. The government has been ceaselessly monitoring hundreds of similar cases, but it has come up with no practical results. In my mind, this interpretation is reasonable and valid.

#### Bewildering Questions

The second point which must draw one's attention is not a new or strange one at all; we have examples, or, more accurately, precedents, for it, and these few questions sum it up:

How did the responsible health authorities concerned permit these rotten goods to circulate? How did the customs authorities permit their entry into the country? Where are the inspection bodies in the ministries concerned? Is this corrupt practice on the part of many responsible bodies the result of ignorance, neglect or sloppiness, or are there hidden forces standing behind this conduct or these acts, with their own means for dealing deviously with the law, bills and instructions, even when it is a matter of the health of the citizens and even their lives? These are the questions to which proper answers must be provided first and foremost, after which one can work in the light of the facts and conditions the answers reveal.

The president previously advanced the principle of purity, purity of heart and hand. It is certain that the poisoning episode and its real circumstances and causes are a broad, proper area for applying this sound principle in every sense of the word. Will our official responsible bodies rise to the level of the meaning that the above-mentioned principle entails? We can do no more than state that we hope so, and that perhaps and maybe they will.

While the poisoning incident was tragic from the human standpoint, it has aspects which can be confirmed by the famous maxim "the most evil catastrophe is the one that makes you laugh." The papers mentioned that the superintendent responsible for supplying some foodstuffs to the schools said that the affliction of 91 pupils is a very low percentage, out of tens of thousands. This means that poisoning by rotten food is a normal phenomenon which is not worth all this noise; it also means that the above-mentioned poisoning is not the first of its kind but is something that is constantly being repeated. However, fortunately, the importer, the merchant, the superintendent and other people participating in operations of this kind did not stir up a commotion, and, even if one has been stirred up, it has been relatively minor. This means, for the third time, that crime is something normal and is not reprehensible.

Stranger than that, and something that calls for more laughter, indeed mockery, is the fact that the papers pointed out that an official in the al-Yarmuk School wrote a report on the cheese before the poisoning incident occurred, but the head of the area refused to receive the report, because it, that is the report, did not have the seal of the eagle on it. God have mercy on al-Kassar, Najib al-Rihani and Isma'il Yass -- would that they were still alive to make the story of the area chief and his position the material for comedies which surely would have met with the greatest astonishment from the masses of audiences! Don't we have the right to say, along with the well known maxim, "the most evil catastrophe is the one that makes you laugh?" There is no strength or power except through God, and God has been at the aid of the simple citizens.

NEW INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES LATEST SECURITY MEASURES, STRATEGIES

Cairo MAYU in Arabic 11 Jan 82 p 3

[Article by 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Dib: "The First Conversation with Hasan Abu Bashe, Minister of the Interior: Why Do I Say That the Terrorist Conspiracy Has Ended and We Have Passed through the Danger?"]

[Text] It is difficult to hold a press interview with the minister of the interior!

Every one of his words is calculated and the effect of every item of news is studied. The subject bears on a sensitive matter first and last -- security.

The security of the nation and the citizen is his prime preoccupation, especially since Egypt is emerging from a harsh, painful trial in which terror sought to bring us back to the age of the jungle where a person could hear only the cries of the hunters and the wails of the victims, and see only devoured limbs and traces of blood on the mouths of the devourers.

It is harder to have a conversation with a man who forewent rest all during the days of the terrible incidents and turned his office into an operations room that kept expanding and expanding until it came to embrace the areas of the incidents themselves. The man simultaneously issued decrees and followed up on execution in the various sections of Cairo, al-Jizah, Asyut, and elsewhere.

It is hard for you to carry on a [conversation] with a security figure who has ascended the staircase from the bottom step to take a seat on the interior minister's chair. There are reasons for the decrees he issues, and there are principles in the method of execution. This all entails a risk that you might discover some method of operation.

However, Maj Gen Hasan Abu Bashe did speak, and he was clear and explicit.

Perhaps that was because the conversation between us was held on soft, comfortable ground, surrounded by the broad smile etched on the face of the Egyptian people. In the first Council of Ministers meeting, the new interior minister declared that Egypt, thanks to God, had gone beyond the bottleneck and had passed through the dangers that the terrorist conspiracy had sown in Egyptian streets.

Perhaps that was because the climate now is one of frank talk with the people, based on facts and the refusal to hide anything from people.

In any case, this is the first journalistic interview in the world to be held with Maj Gen Hasan Abu Basha, the new interior minister. And, with the end of the introduction, the conversation began!

Question At the latest Council of Ministers meeting, you declared that the terrorist conspiracy is completely over with, that you have liquidated its pockets, and that Egypt has passed beyond all dangers and has regained its security and safety. What are the details of this important piece of news?

Looking far off, Hasan Abu Basha, the minister of interior, replied,

"The latest conspiracy was one of the most serious experiences that Egypt has gone through. The plot woven in this conspiracy could have brought the country to a degree of chaos that the human mind could not imagine. The number of persons who took part in the conspiracy was very large, and these persons had made preparations to create a kind of overall chaos in the country. To carry this off they had obtained large quantities of bombs, a big amount of explosives and an enormous quantity of arms."

The minister of interior fell silent briefly and passed his hand over his forehead, as if plucking recollections of the events out of his strong memory, then went on to say,

"When the first thread of the conspiracy was revealed and we got to a group of the people taking part in it, roughly 10 days before the assassination of the late leader Anwar al-Sadat, and the Asyut incidents occurred, after the assassination of the late leader, that was a surprise which had significance and gravity.

"The race between security and time began. The situation in this race ended time detriment by 1 minute!

"Whole areas of Cairo could have been blown up every moment the security forces were late in moving."

A smile appeared on Hasan Abu Basha's face. However, he continued to look far away, as he continued to talk:

"The security forces moved in a manner that calls for amazement and pride in this race. This movement required effort and time. The area covered by the race was terrific: it comprised Greater Cairo, most of the governorates of Upper Egypt and some governorates of Lower Egypt. The personnel in the terrorist organization, as I said, were numerous and branched out, and the organization had resources with which to arm itself. It was up to the security men to reveal the dimensions of the conspiracy, become informed of it and strip the conspirators of their weapons and explosives. Not only that -- the security men had to seize the reins of the initiative in their own hands to compel the conspirators to retreat and at times flee."

The smile broadened as he went on to say:

"Ultimately, it became possible to learn about all the dimensions of the scheme and the personnel in the organization that arranged the conspiracy and carried it out, on the command and base levels. It became possible to discover all the weapons

cache and nests of conspirators. At that point we got to the point where we could say that the likelihood of imminent breakdowns had ended, thanks be to God, and the situation had to a large extent become secure. Thus the dangers that the country could have faced come to an end."

He had a string of beads in his hands, but raised a finger regarding an important point, stating,

"There is no doubt that one of the major causes of support for the situation was first the fact that the president was saved during the incident, second the rapid constitutional shift of power and third the people's rejection of the method of violence and their endorsement of the person of the new commander. Nothing gives better proof of that than the referendum held to elect the president. I personally consider that to be a historic referendum in the life of Egypt -- it was clear to every Egyptian and foreigner that the people, through their own initiative, had agreed to cast their votes. I know persons who stood for hours before the referendum committees in their eagerness to cast their votes, though they generally would not go to referendum committees. Adding to the support of the domestic front was the declaration of President Husni Mubarak's policies and the goals and values he believed deeply in, every Egyptian could confirm that he was expressing them through his conscience and that was fully insistent on carrying them out. Therefore people became convinced that the country was venturing on a period in which it could cope with all negative features, whatever their nature or place might be. I believe that this is what has been happening since the president assumed his position."

Question Concerning the people in the conspiracy - the members of the terrorist organization - information has been published that shows their roles, but only a little bit has been published about some of them, although the security agencies have publicized their pictures on television since they evaded the grip of the police. The best example of that is Najih Ibrahim. What is the story on him? Why has his arrest taken such a long time?

The Story of Najih Ibrahim!

The minister immediately replied,

"Najih Ibrahim played a role in the planning and preparation. He was the Asyut operations commander. At zero hour he personally went down to lead the members of the terrorist organization in carrying out their scheme. However, he proceeded to flee when he discovered early on that their scheme was condemned to fail, as a result of security men's speed of movement and the people's refusal to embrace the terror and conspiracy in Asyut. Najih hid with one of his friends in Akhmim, Sawhaj. Here I can tell you that to search for a fugitive in a country famed for its population density is like searching for a needle in a stack of hay. The police resort to numerous methods in their search. In other countries where the police deal with fugitives, the flight can last for many years, but, thanks be to God, we arrested Najih as he was trying to get on a skiff in the Nile, feeling that the town he was hiding in was surrounded and that the forces had spread out waiting for him, even though he had found refuge in a faraway town.

"There are numerous examples on this subject. Perhaps the most prominent was the arrest of a member of the organization after he had taken flight. That fugitive



terrorist had assumed an alias and had changed his costume, and his facial appearance. We managed to identify the people he had been in touch with and when he himself contacted one of these people with his alias we encouraged the person he contacted to arrange a meeting with him. When the terrorist came and met his friend, we were there, and we arrested him."

A smile appeared to Hasan Abu Bashe's face as he said,

"There is no perfect crime. There is an error or a breach in every crime, and the criminal falls prey to it in spite of himself. If the security men have the resources for unearthing this breach, they can come up with the criminal. That naturally depends on the intelligence and resources of the security agency."

Question What makes you say that the case of the terrorist conspiracy is closed? What is the first thing that happened that made it possible for you to say that?

The minister of interior answered by saying:

"Two things. The first was getting to the base level and arresting all the people there, and second was following the trace of weapons and explosives in all areas until we got to them all in the end. Then the terrorist organization was stripped of the opportunity to move."

Question Did some people in the organization manage to escape from the country?

Hasan Abu Bashe stated,

"A small number did proceed to go abroad."

The position of minister of interior does not just involve security and safety measures. It is foremost a political position. It was inevitable that the conversation with Hasan Abu Bashe should shift to politics, while everyone was still talking about the latest elections that had taken place for People's Assembly seats for three districts, Abu Tij, Kaum Hammadah and Mahallat Ruh. The aroma that emerged from all these elections was clean; the people who lost the elections stood up and embraced their colleagues who had won, while the others declared loudly that the elections were 100 percent free. What does the minister of the interior have to say about that?

Hasan Abu Bashe said:

"These elections were the first test to face the leaders in the new stage, especially after the opposition had met with the leaders to agree on the broad outlines of a new form of party activity, especially once the opposition had confirmed that the dimensions of the terrorist conspiracy the country faced involved everyone, majority and opposition; the opposition confirmed that terrorism did not differentiate between government and opposition and that it was aimed at both together, considering the two sides to be basic pillars of the regime. Therefore we have observed practices which take objectivity as a basis for movement. These elections were a truthful expression of the fact that the competition was honorable, that chances were equal, that all agencies committed themselves to complete impartiality and that there was not the slightest form of interference in the elections. In the districts where the



elections took place, all the candidates - the candidates of the National Party, the Labor Party and the independents alike - confirmed that the security agencies had taken a wholly impartial stand. There is no doubt that that had repercussions with the masses. Many people praised the atmosphere, even the candidates who did not win. That was considered one strong item of proof of the integrity of political life in Egypt, and it underlined all the notions the president has stressed in all his speeches."

Question The minister of the interior is a member of the National Party cabinet. Economic developments are what are now monopolizing the president and prime minister's main attention. What is the Ministry of the Interior's role in the economic process?

Hasan Abu Basma replied by saying,

"We are concerned with all effects that influence the masses, because the atmosphere consistently determines what opportunities are available to elements that do not commit themselves to legal conduct in influencing the masses' actions. As regards the field of the economy and everyday life, and the role of the security forces in them, particularly the problem of the living standard as reflected by supply commodities, security plays the role of oversight and supervision regarding all attempts artificially to raise prices or hoard with the objective of creating tightnesses of supply or storing goods, and it takes the initiative of deterring these. I believe that the security agencies can play an effective role to the utmost in this field. Alongside that, the 'source' of security must come about through followup, because other influences can affect the living situation, and the agencies in charge of monitoring living expenses can be informed of these influences, in order to take the necessary measures."

Question What about laws on discipline?

He answered by saying,

"The traffic problem in general is one of the most important problems now facing the security agencies. We must acknowledge that it is often the object of the masses' complaints. Traffic, of course, is connected to production and the masses' ease of movement. However, I am anxious to assert that I will talk about the role of the police only after getting results. However, there is an aspect which involves planning for such vital projects as multi-story garage buildings. The public and the degree of commitment is another thing. One cannot put a traffic officer next to every sign to make the citizens obey the law, because that is a burden. We will try to remedy every negative feature, and I will admit that there are negative features, at which point I will say I have done such-and-such. There is a role that is required of the media, and that is that the commitment to obey traffic rules must be deepened among the public."

Question Mr minister, let us lay out the subjects, in order, that are receiving your attention.

He stated "First, support for political and criminal security in the country through multifaceted security procedures, as much as possible, in order to bring about the greatest degree of security, because that will involve attaining domestic stability.

"Then, foremost among my concerns is the problem of traffic and the performance level in police stations and all police locations, especially those that deal with the public, it is my hope that the day will come when any individual who visits a police station will be sure of being given his rights. There is also the role of the police in following up on problems that are connected to the people's food, and there are prisons and urgent steps to turn them into productive institutions and eliminate all problems that are supported /sic/ by the notion that prisons are an institution of reform and production, so that they may graduate groups of convicts after turning them into citizens who are able to turn away from the path of sin. The more we raise this percentage the more we will succeed.

"Many measures have been adopted with respect to forgery-proof identity cards and passports, and I will make an effort on that, with God's permission.

"I will strive to have the Ministry of the Interior, with its various agencies, be quick and frank to admit mistakes when there are any.

"My conception is that collective leadership, attaining goals and effective means toward these goals will guarantee that that be realized."

The first conversation with the new minister of the interior finally came to an end.

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CSO: 4504/163

PRIVATE PARTICIPATION IN TRANSPORTATION URGED

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 22 Feb 82 p 3

[Editorial: "Private Buses Better"]

[Text] For some time now, privately owned minibuses have been operating a transport service, not only between suburbs but inside Cairo itself on regular routes. Fares charged are roughly double that of the public transport and, since the drivers neither have to issue tickets nor wear a standard uniform, their overhead costs are minimal. These private minibuses provide a happy medium between taxis with their exorbitant fares and public transport with their inhuman conditions of overcrowdedness. So no one complains, and, looking at the whole picture, why should anyone? It is obvious that our public transport system cannot cope with the commuting population of Cairo. Since it is already quite heavily subsidised and since the population of Cairo is steadily increasing, it is obvious that our public transport system can only get worse. We shall need even more buses, and, with buses breaking down due to overloading, this will mean even more subsidisation.

Looking at the problem realistically, isn't it time we started bringing back private firms into the sphere of public transport? This service could come under the supervision of the provincial authorities. Some have suggested letting the co-ops run their own transport system. But, looking at the way they run their stores, are they likely to be any better than the present General Transport Authority? Looking at the problem of public transport realistically it would seem that opening the door to private enterprise is the only realistic answer.

CSO: 4500/113

# INQUIRY INTO DUBIOUS VILLA DEALS IN ASWAN

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 22 Feb 82 p 2

[Text] The Chairman of a public sector contracting company in Kon Ombo will be questioned by the Aswan People's Council regarding striking violations committed in the distribution of 27 villas constructed by his company. The Chairman is to be called for questioning at a session of the Council to be held early next month.

The 27 villas, valued at LE 10 million, had been sold for only about LE 100 000 according to sources in Aswan People's Council. Utilising its power as a public authority, the press, namely "Al-Ahram," had earlier brought up the case, whereupon the Aswan Council immediately began its investigations.

On checking the company's files the Council came across striking evidence of favouritism and abuse of power. Three villas were purchased by a People's Assembly member at very low prices. He bought one at LE 4 100 and assigned it to his brother, then he bought another one at LE 3 575 in the name of another brother, and a third in the name of his father. The Assembly member also seized a plot of land for which he paid only LE 500, without signing a contract of rent or purchase.

The violations emanated from the fact that the villas were sold contrary to the established regulations of selling such villas by auction. Thus a former ranking police officer bought one of the 27 villas, in the name of his wife, at a price of LE 9.190 and sold it to the Bank of Alexandria at LE 100 000 realising a profit of about LE 90 000.

Another striking violation of regulations is the case of the villa sold to a law counsellor through an informal bid though the villa was occupied by a land reclamation agency. In such cases regulations stipulate that the actual occupants of the villa be given the right to purchase the villa at a price 10 per cent less than the highest bid offered.--GSS

CSO: 4500/113

CLANDESTINE ON KHOMEYNI DESIGNS TO RULE WORLD

NC271727 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 27 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Summary from poor reception] On the Islamic Republic's third anniversary a world map divided into three parts was presented to Khomeyni. The black part shows the United States and countries subject to it. The red part delineates the Soviet Union and its satellites, while the green part--from Indonesia to Morocco--shows countries within Khomeyni's realm. Khomeyni's realm on this map "which stretches from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans, includes the Muslim Soviet republics, Albania and part of Yugoslavia."

While his own republic is shaky and its fate unknown, Khomeyni is "considering the entire Sunni sect, which is at least 10 times larger than the Shi'ite sect, as his followers and is speaking of world suzerainty in these last days of his life."

However, the days have passed when people believe what Khomeyni says will be done. When whatever Khomeyni said was done was when everything had been preplanned. "If the British Intelligence Service and the U.S. CIA had not ordered the French security authorities to keep Khomeyni, in any way possible, near Paris, then--in the same way that the Kuwaitis turned him away from their borders and told him that Kuwait was not the place for him--he could never have stayed in France even for an hour." Had the United States' "direct and indirect contacts, like Ramsey Clark, not visited Khomeyni in Neuphle-le-Chateau, where they informed him that the U.S. administration would support him and that the State Department was ready to prepare for the shah's departure from the country--and we saw how U.S. Ambassador Sullivan went to see the shah and very blatantly told him that it was not advisable for him to stay and that each minute of delay would create numerous dangers for himself and his family--Khomeyni would never have dared to say that the shah should go." Had the White House not sent General Huyser "hastily to Tehran to demobilize the Iranian Army, to tie the hands and feet of the officers and to warn all of them that if they did not obey, then U.S. Government would rise to confront them, the armed forces would not have declared neutrality." It would not have given up so easily, and Khomeyni would not have created a government within a government and "the legal rule of the country would not be placed vis-a-vis a fait accompli overnight."



The same applies for Bazargan who confessed how, "by obtaining the Soviet and British Embassies' agreement, he formed a cabinet with peace of mind and started to change the regime with which the Americans, Soviets and Britons had previously agreed." Had this not been the case, then the referendum would not have been held and the Islamic Republic would not have emerged and it would not have given the impression that everything said by Khomeyni is done. We saw that immediately after Khomeyni himself believed that whatever he said was done, he said and did things that could not be undone with any miracle.

However, Khomeyni is now fooling himself and no one else because the time has passed when he could deceive the people. "Maybe these are the last flatteries of a dying man so that he will not die with the worry that all he has made and polished was all in vain and that, with his death, his Islamic Republic also will not be able to stay and will inevitably join him. It is to God we belong and it is to God that we will return."

CSO: 4640/182

## CAUSES, OUTCOME OF IRAQI INVASION ASSESSED

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 28 Feb 82 p 3

[Text]

A series of heroic campaigns of the type only the soldiers of Islam can undertake has brought Iran close to total victory over Iraq. The eventual outcome of this war, started by Iraq in September 1980 in the hope of a quick victory, has not been in doubt for several months.

Within two weeks of the Iraqi invasion it was clear that Iraq's military objectives were not going to be achieved. The political objectives — primarily the collapse of the Islamic State — would also be considerably hindered by the failure to attain the military objectives. Despite this it was still widely held that with its vastly superior army Iraq would be able to hold on until the Islamic State disintegrated or was taken over by a secular regime after an army coup.

The main strategy of Iraq's allies was thus to tighten the stranglehold on the economy of the Islamic State. The US and its allies maintained the embargo on arms shipments in Iran even after the resolution of the hostage crisis. The Saudis increased their oil production to flood the market and drive Iran's exports out. France and Britain started supplying Iraq with vast quantities of sophisticated weaponry.

On the food and commodity markets, the Iraqis began to offer high prices to any supplier to Iran in order to deprive the latter of the goods.

To maintain the continued goodwill of the European countries, Iraq began to place billions of dollars worth of new contracts. It is estimated that in the last 18 months Iraq has spent some US\$ 40 billion, the bulk of it being 'loans' from other Arab countries, mainly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Thus the Islamic State was well and truly isolated.

Not content with international pressure, US agents inside the Islamic State embarked on a systematic campaign of sabotage and assassinations. The so-called Mujahideen-e-Khalq, in collaboration with Bani-Sadr, succeeded in killing many able military and civilian leaders, amongst them Ayatollah Muhammad Husain Beheshti and Muhammed Ali Raja'i.

Against these odds, the Islamic army has made truly spectacular gains following the deposition of Bani-Sadr. Having halted the advance of the Ba'athist aggressors in the first couple of weeks of the war, it was only political factors which prevented the routing of the enemy. It was not until Bani-Sadr had been removed that the vital cooperation between the army, the Revolutionary Guards and the war mobilization office became possible.

Within a matter of weeks the fortunes on the stalled battlefields were reversed. In September 1981 exactly one year

after the start of the war, the Islamic forces lifted the siege of the city of Abadan in a military operation unparalleled in recent history of warfare. In one night some fifteen hundred Ba'athist troops were killed, some two thousands taken prisoners, and large quantity of ammunition including 100 tanks captured intact.

The Islamic forces, whose front line volunteered to attain martyrdom in the process of clearing the heavily mined defenses of the Ba'athists, attacked with such ferocity that the Ba'athists were totally routed from the west bank of the Karun river. The lifting of the siege of Abadan meant that Saddam's aim of controlling both banks of the Shatt-al-Arab became unattainable. The scale of the defeat stunned military observers everywhere and created panic among the Arab rulers in the region.

Scarcely two months after this victory and despite the loss of four top military leaders in a plane crash, the Islamic army struck again, this time near Susangerd. Here again in three days of intense fighting more than a thousand Ba'athist soldiers were killed and the same number taken prisoners. Over a hundred tanks were captured intact and some ninety destroyed. When the Ba'athists tried to reverse the situation by aerial bombardment, some 25 aircraft, including two of Iraq's newly acquired Mirages, were shot down. In this battle, with the capture of the border town of Bostan and its surrounding routes, the supply lines of the remaining Ba'athist forces in Khuzestan were severely hampered; it is only a matter of time before they have to vacate Khuzestan altogether.

These victories were preceded by several successes in the northern front, where most of the heights overlooking the border town of Wasre Shirin have been retaken. The significance of this town is that it is on the traditional invasion route to Baghdad via Khaneqain. These victories were followed by major successes in the central front near Ilam.

Overall, it is estimated that some 80 percent of the land initially occupied by the Ba'athists has been retaken. More than 50,000 Ba'athist soldiers have been killed, and nearly 10,000 more are held prisoners.

The victories of Abadan and Bostan awakened the world to the fact that a total triumph of the Islamic State was near. Since then there have been several attempts to shore up Saddam's battered forces.

It was quickly realized that the victory would be attributed to Islamic forces rather than to technological prowess. In this case the whole question of the usefulness of arms purchases would come under scrutiny. An attempt was made to attribute the success of the Islamic forces to first Israeli arms, then British supplies and, finally, US supplies. None of these has succeeded and the very nature of the victories make it evident that the triumph is solely attributable to the superior motivation of the forces of Islam.

Now an attempt is being made in the media to put a positive picture of the conflict and portray Iran as the obvious winner. Why this sudden reversal after 18 months of Iraqi propaganda? The reason is that, having realized that the Islamic State was now a consolidated reality, the west would like to get in lest Iran becomes totally self-reliant. The Islamic State should be wary of offers from the west of help to reconstruct its economy. In President Sayyed Ali Khamene'i, they have a leader who understands these vultures well, and who will follow the precious insights of Ayatollah Khomeini to the letter.

As the West tries to mend its fences, the Arab partners of Saddam see a bleak future. King Husain has already announced Jordan's physical participation in the war. The Saudis and the other Gulf States have little to offer beyond money and US

arms. They are beginning to realize that the Islamic forces have penetrated the protective umbrella of AWACs. Sooner or later they will have to submit to the Islamic forces.

As the Islamic Revolution in Iran celebrates its third anniversary, it looks as if the Muslims of Iraq will join them soon. The combined might of the Muslims of Iran and Iraq will destroy the forces of Arabism and set the stage for a Muslim liberation of Jerusalem. The superpowers may intervene to impose their will, but with the might of the awakened Muslims they can only delay, and not deflect, the ultimate outcome.

"The Muslim people of Iran have succeeded in spreading the message of Islam to all corners of the globe.

CSO: 4600/310

CLANDESTINE ON REASONS FOR WAR MEDIATION FAILURE

NC021240 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1805 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] (?Once again) mediation efforts for terminating the war between the regimes of Tehran and Baghdad met with a deadlock and, very possibly, any other effort coming from (?either) organizations such as the Noanligned Movement or the Islamic conference which is scheduled to be held this week in Riyadh will be unsuccessful in ending the war. Because although the continuation of the destructive war (?is detrimental for the two nations of Iran and Iraq), it is a seraph of assurance for the clerical regime and, possibly for Saddam's rule, for the prolongation of their rule.

The truth is that involving the Iranian armed forces and people of Iran in a war was a plot aimed against our country's industrial and economic structure and, most important of all, aimed at creating a new market to the benefit of sellers of various types of weapons and to the countries of the East and West, enabling them to make future sales of their products to a country that will be in serious need of reconstruction.

The bloodthirsty old man of Jamaran has so far used this war to further sharpen his blade, but the merchants of the East and West have sold a considerable quantity of arms on this pretext. According to many world experts, both Iran and Iraq will emerge from this war tired and worn out, weak and incapable and in this cursed war there will not be a victor. However, it is highly likely that this war will overthrow both regimes. The other great danger lies in the fact that the nations of Iran and Iraq [words indistinct] enmity against each other, at a time when they are bound with sanguineous ties, cultural, and historical ties, which demand the opposite. The other greater danger lies in the fact that foreign and domestic plotters may turn [words indistinct] war into a war between the Arabs and Iran by being aware of the fact that the Muslim Arab nations, like the Iranian nation itself, detest Khomeyni and are hoping to overthrow him and his bloodthirsty and adventurist regime. But everyone should know that the way to overthrow Khomeyni does not lie in aggressing Iran and in confronting the children of Iran. The way to overthrow Khomeyni and his anti-Islamic republic can be achieved only by giving moral support to the Iranian patriots and in trying to deracinate and eliminate the Soviet Union's support for Khomeyni's regime. Everyone knows now that Khomeyni's newest president,



'Ali Khamene'i has a secret collusion with the Russians and (?will fall into the Soviet Union's lap with the first opportunity) [words indistinct]. The intensification and continuation of the war between the regimes of Tehran and Baghdad will be a pretext for the Khomeyni regime to turn to the Soviet Union for assistance and at the first opportunity, at the hands of this regime and by virtue of the Islamic Republic's constitution, the Russians will dissolve the Iranian armed forces and establish a so-called Islamic armed forces from within the Revolution Guards. In this way the Soviet Union will attain its long-harbored wish and will remove the only resisting nationalist and honorable from its path toward the Persian Gulf.

Compatriots, by fanning the flames of the war with Iraq, Khomeyni and Khamene'i are moving toward the weakening and destruction of the Iranian armed forces and at this stage have been able to weaken it. There is no doubt that Khomeyni and Khamene'i do not allow the Iranian armed forces to win because if they do, they will be bringing the hour of their own death closer. However, they do create the necessary means to tire and wear out this army as much as possible.

Compatriots, support the Iranian armed forces and be alert that many plots are being engineered both in Iran and abroad for destroying its structure. [Words indistinct] the only element for saving the country from the present calamity and for Iran's restrengthening is the patriotic Iranian armed forces.

CSO: 4640/182

RELATIONS WITH U.S., USSR, GULF, NONALIGNED STATES DISCUSSED

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 28 Feb 82 pp 1, 3

[Text] TEHRAN — In an exclusive interview with the Chief Editor of the TEHRAN TIMES, President of the Islamic Republic, Seyed Ali Khamenei spoke on a number of wide-ranging issues of relevance to the Moslem World in particular and the world at large particularly in the context of Iran's relations to these movements. The President obliged with full answers to a number of questions to him which threw light on the varied topics touched upon.

The following is the full text of the interview:

Q: If despite the just protests of the Islamic Republic, the Non-Aligned Summit is held in Baghdad, what will be the attitude of Iran to the Non-Aligned countries?

A: In the name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful.

We look upon the Non-Aligned countries as a whole and what matters for us is the community of the Non-Aligned. We, therefore, will help to preserve such a community and continue in our membership in it. But this does not ever mean that we believe without reserve in the right direction of all movements and position takings of the community. At present too, we think the community is not holding to its commitments. If there was such a commitment, it should have expelled Iraq as well as many other countries. But such questions will not cause us to leave the community

because of the fact that it is still considered by many nations and some governments as a power which can as yet hold its own against the two world powers. So we try to correct it.

As you may know, even the founders and the main members of the community had doubts as to its non-alignment and declared this to be so in speeches years ago.

Deficiencies then should only be regarded as symptoms of chronic sickness within the Non-Aligned community, which we should make every effort to correct. We embarked on such efforts at last year's summit in India and God willing, we will continue our efforts in this regard in the future as well.

Q: In the last few months we witnessed the vast demonstrations of the Moslem Sudanese people against their regime as well as the unsparing aid by the US and reactionary Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia to Nimeiri's government for suppressing the Moslem masses. What is the position of the Islamic Republic in regard to Sudanese affairs?

A: Let me analyse the situation for you first. We are of the opinion that following the successive defeats in Asia, the US now intends strengthening its position in some new regions. These new regions are mainly in the north of Africa. By saying 'new regions' we do not imply that the US was not present in those regions before. For a long time now America has been present in

North Africa and the Horn of Africa as well as in many other regions. But it is now trying to make its active presence felt in those regions and if possible, endeavoring to substitute these regions to make up for losses in other parts of the globe.

Now you will see that it follows as a natural consequence that the US intends using all the weak points in the Middle East, Africa or in any other region in the world.

Sudan is undoubtedly one of those weak points in Africa due to the deep cultural poverty of its people and the affiliation of its regime to foreign powers. Therefore, the US is trying to gain a foothold in that country.

If the progressive countries in the north of Africa are not threatened by the US, it is quite possible that the waves of progressive thinking and Islamic thinking in particular, will spread around in that region.

By entering Sudan and through preservation of the puppet regime of Nimeiri, the US aims at holding back such progressive Islamic waves.

But by the canons of our Islamic ideology, we believe that it is always the popular movements which will ultimately emerge victorious in the struggles between puppet regimes and people. We foresee such a fate for Sudan too.

In regard to our position in this connection, I must say that wherever the U.S. is present, the Islamic Republic's policy is based upon political

confrontation with the U.S. in that region. In whatever part of the world the U.S. follows expansionist objectives, we must act according to our 'No West, No East' policy.

In regard to the Middle East, Israel is certainly the most secure base for the U.S. We, therefore, are present wherever the issue of Israel is brought up. And since we feel the presence of the U.S. in north of Africa in countries such as Morocco and Sudan, hence we will never cease our opposition to aggressive policies of the U.S. and our support of the oppressed people in those regions. This is the decisive position of the Islamic Republic.

Q: Since U.S. has threatened that if Israel is expelled from the United Nations Organization, America will also leave the UN and will block all financial U.S. assistance to this organization, and also since every active resolution against Israel was and will be vetoed by the United States, is it not a proper occasion for the Islamic Republic to launch a united campaign along with some progressive Arab and non-Arab countries to jointly boycott and leave the U.N. in order to void the organization of its legitimacy?

A: As regards the cutting of U.S. assistance to the U.N. if Israel is expelled, I should repeat this popular Persian proverb: "We hate America so much that we don't give a damn for its help." The U.S. assistance means nothing except trouble for the UN.

As for us leaving the United Nations - No. We will not do it. The UNO belongs to us, belongs to the nations, belongs to the people throughout the world.

We should rise against those who manipulate the UN through dictation and gangsterism. We should rise to fight against these trends instead of leaving the organization.

We will try to block the U.S. dictatorship and gangsterism in the United Nations.

With the help of the progressive governments in the world and the help of the

Mostazaf (oppressed and deprived) people in the world, we will try to block the U.S. dictatorship and gangsterism towards the United Nations.

Q: What is the position of the Islamic Republic towards the Soviet Union at this stage?

A: Our (present) stand towards the Soviet Union at this stage is not different from our former stand. In accordance with our overall policy of "Neither East nor West," we have no inclinations and tendencies towards Russia. We condemn sharply the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan.

We also condemn any kind of Soviet move for expansionism, any kind of invasion, any kind of imperialistic move and effort to establish a Soviet empire and we regard it as repulsive.

Of course, we are not try

ing to involve ourselves in aggression or declare war and enmity.

Our policy is this - our policy is a policy of opposing any kind of tyranny and gangsterism which is what it is observed from the Soviet side towards Afghanistan. But this policy does not mean that we now begin to launch into direct war with the Soviet Union. Therefore, we were not pursuing this policy in the beginning and we do not pursue it now.

But the condemnation of the Soviet Union, from our viewpoint, was definite in the beginning as it is now.

Our aim is to be able to persuade the Soviet Union not to commit aggression against Afghanistan.

Q: What are the criteria and value scales of the Islamic Republic concerning "relations" with other countries?

A: We are brothers with the Moslem countries, as long as they respect Islam. Everything we have belongs to them. We are at their service and are ready to help them.

Regarding the non-Moslem countries, our values and standards are the instructions that Quran has taught us.

Quran teaches us not to have anything to do with those who have nothing to do with us and do not invade us.

Quran teaches us not to declare hostility to those who do not harm us or invade us. More even than this, the Quran orders us to befriend them, and this we are doing.

As to those who are hatching conspiracies against us, planning against us, invading us, entertaining evil thoughts in their heads to commit aggression against us, we will, of course, face and fight them and will not show any kind of submission and compromise towards them.

Q: What are the terms of Iran for maintaining friendly relations with Persian Gulf countries such as Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait etc.?

A: I should of course stress that all these countries are not similar in character. Some of them are nearer to truth and justice than others.

Of course, regarding the Persian Gulf governments, we can sum up our policy as "independence and self-sufficiency" in our relations with them.

Do not trust and confide in the great oppressor, i.e. the United States, and any one of the other oppressors of the world, we to these countries.

If they promise that they will not pave the way open for America to enter the region and do not desire for themselves "a master with a whip," called America hovering over their heads, (then) we will live at peace with them. They are our neighbors and we will maintain good neighborliness and co-existence.

Q: Olaf Palme has again ventured on a visit to Iran and Iraq. What is the reason that they start thinking of peace once in a while between Iran and Iraq? Despite the fact that they know Iran will not modify its principal stands announced. What do they seek by such traffic?

A: It is not very easy for us to place on the same pedestal all efforts for peace by various governments, delegations and individuals.

A group in the world, by raising the name of peace regarding the war of the Iraqi aggressors against Iran, only want to find a cause to condemn Iran.

They, once in a while, cause an uproar in the world to say that "Iran is not ready to accept peace terms." They only want to produce some evidence to condemn Iran, and follow no other aim.

A group perhaps wants to force Iran to accept peace in view of this uproar. This will definitely not answer the just demands of this country and this great nation.

Through such means, they want to extinguish the flame that is burning Iraq because the ill-will and ill-intentions of the Baghdad rulers do not hurt their countries.

It is possible that there are others in the world who really wish to establish peace, and genuinely feel there should be no war, and believe that the Palestine issue should take precedence. Perhaps there are also some in the world who, with this thought, start talking about peace between Iran and Iraq.

We have nothing to offer the first group since their aims are devilish and unjust. We will not waste our time talking to them.

But as to those who are really desirous of establishing a just peace, we have repeatedly told them that the door of our country is open to them, come and say what you have to say and listen to our opinion as well.

And when they feel that the terms of Iran are just terms, they can then support our stand and make those terms understood to the aggressive enemy and similarly all those who support the enemy, in an effort to implement those terms.

If these efforts reach near

success, we love peace more than war and will never prefer a harsh solution to a peaceful one and this is the order of our Islam.

But if these efforts do not achieve results, we have shown, and we believe this, that we are not afraid of violence.

We will not avoid war when it is for Allah and when in it lies the sole solution.

Our nation is a nation which has accepted the war, which has accepted the hardships of war, and since it knows that this war is a war which has been imposed on it by the big international enemies, it is its duty to stand up to face these countries, therefore they accept all difficulties with patience.

So, in the first place, and, in short, we want peace. But if the aggressive enemy does not accept a just and honorable peace, war is the only solution and the only acceptable solution.

Q: In conclusion, if you have a message for the people of the world, especially the Moslems and the lovers of the

Islamic Revolution who receive this newspaper, please let us have it.

Q: We want the people of the world to try to know and understand our revolution. This is not a very high expectation. We have a message. We have things to say to them. A nation of 40 million has led a great movement. It has made the big powers of the world fearful and due to this reason they have enveloped and impr-

isoned it in an oppressive propaganda cauldron.

It is for the people of the world to understand why such a great nation, by offering tens of thousands of martyrs, has accepted a revolution and is not ready to take its hands off it.

This is something that is not understood in the world's newspapers, and the official radios of the world, all probably affiliated to imperialism and Zionism.

They should try and make efforts to recognize this reality and this truth. Our most important advice to the people of the world is to realize the truth.

As to the Moslems, my message to them is to know that this revolution has turned into reality an old wish of the Moslems. This is the first step. We do not claim that we have accomplished all tasks. We claim that we have only started the move.

Similarly, we do not claim that we can accomplish this task without the assistance of the people of the world.

But we do hope that the people of the world will come to realize this truth and will come to believe in it and it will finally have its rewards and thus is the good news that is given by the Quran.

We expect that the Moslems will regard this revolution, as one in which their Islamic ideals are enshrined and will receive fulfillment.

We expect they will make efforts to know our revolution, and when they have recognized it properly, to defend it as a soldier, would, or better still as a Moslem would.



DAILY TAKES ISSUE WITH 'TILT TO MOSCOW' THEORY

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 2 Mar 82 p 2

[Editorial by Moadab: "Tilt to Moscow"]

[Text]

*"On the third anniversary of the downfall of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, about 30,000 Iranian converged on Tehran's Azadi (Freedom) Square shouting imprecations against the U.S. At the same time units of Islamic Guards and militia marched upon outsized American flags that had been laid along their route." These two sentences are quoted verbatim from the March 1, 1982 issue of Time magazine. This issue dedicates the third column of page 16, an article entitled "Tilt to Moscow".*

*In the third paragraph it continues "Tehran's rapprochement with Moscow has enraged many of Iran's rightwing clergymen. Though the rightists have thus far lost the battle to keep the Islamic revolution uncontaminated by Communist support, they have gathered strength in the power struggle over who will succeed Khomeini."*

*Then the magazine makes reference to the recent visit of the Iranian energy minister to Moscow and concludes that "the energy minister declared in Moscow that the Soviet Union is a "friendly country", a telling contrast to the epithet "aggressor "superpower of the East" that Iran had until recently reserved for the U.S.S.R.*

*Still more coverage, vis-a-vis the new wave of the Great Satan's calculated accusations, we read in a piece of newscopy wired by (UPI) this afternoon: "The Soviet Union in cooperation with the Iranian revolutionary government, has set up an electronic listening post to spy on Pakistan, Time magazine said Sunday".*

*What is the purpose of this new series of allegations Time magazine has begun publishing? Do the people running this periodical think they can spoof world public opinion? Or do they want us to react and defend ourselves by rejecting these wholly false accusations? Finally, why is Time magazine so anxious about our relations with our neighbors?*

*Do the publishers of Time believe we should line up behind the Iron Curtain, because we do not want or need to have*

relations with the U.S. and that because of our clear break with America must we sever relations with all others?

If the philanthropist sympathisers of the Iranian people are afraid of the "contamination" of the Islamic Revolution by Marxist support then why do they try to sully our relations with Pakistan?

We believe the mystery lies elsewhere. This "back to the primitive" tactic of the U.S. mass media is an old trick which is doomed to failure. The U.S. intervened in Iran in 1953 under the pretext of defending the freedom of Iran against its big neighbor.

Even more ridiculous than this was the recent declaration of Zbigniew Brzezinski, on the program Panorama in London saying he believed "the hostages" were freed in a reasonable way. And this was done without endangering the "territorial integrity" of Iran. "If we had intervened there, Russia would have come and Iran would have been partitioned." This declaration of the ex-National Security Advisor of Jimmy Carter reveals that the Soviet Union as scapegoat is the pivot of U.S. foreign policy in relation to Iran.

America believes that all Third World countries should belong to her otherwise they will be swallowed by the Russians. A venerable Persian story has the famous Mulla Nasserdin passing an alley. The children, playing together, seeing Nasserdin, started to throw stones at him. He turned back and pointing to a door said to the children that instead of throwing stone at him they could go there to get candy and sweets. The children, being deceived by the trick of Nasserdin, left him and rushed toward the door. Nasserdin, seeing the children rushing the entrance told himself "Since all the children are going toward that house, there must be something happening over there!!"

America also tried to make the world believe that the Islamic Revolution was in fact a Marxist one. To prove this it succeeded in having some reactionary states and some mercenary "Muslim" clergymen cast doubt as to the revolution being Islamic. When they said this the U.S. copying Nasserdin's style of reasoning believed, "There must be something happening over there."

Let America know that we recognize our enemies, both in our neighborhood and very far away from our borders. We have the political insight to distinguish between friends and enemies. We recognize our principal enemy. We also know our friends, though it is not easy to choose the dearest one.

Geography and history has taught us to understand what 2000 kms of common frontiers mean.

The American establishment should know that as the principal enemy of our Islamic Revolution it is disliked and mistrusted in Iran. When our armed forces walked on the U.S. flag they knew what it symbolized politically.

On the other hand, because we believe in the "Neither East Nor West" slogan, one of the rallying cries of the

revolution, we know how to deal with the Soviet Union. America and all its mouthpieces are aware that our condemnation of the occupation of Afghanistan remains absolute. As long as one Soviet soldier remains in Afghanistan, we continue our disapproval.

America should know that we are an independent state. We are not like Mubarak or King Hussein to visit the White House and ask guidelines for our foreign policy. We are sovereign. Even if all the allegations made by Time magazine, or the papers were true, still America has nothing to do with our political orientation. Russia also must know that our animosity towards America should not be taken as a point of political dependence on Russia. If we march upon the U.S. flag we were also the first country to condemn the invasion of Afghanistan.

With the political maturity people have achieved, we want to know why do Haig and Gromyko meet and what do they discuss? Have they not agreed to divide the world among themselves? Then why does America (or Russia) want to deceive us? The Kremlin and White House have only an apparent difference. Notwithstanding we do know that America is our principal enemy.

Our Imam has taught us that America is the great satan and Russia is an aggressor.

Washington and all its allies must know that because we decide for ourselves, our decisions will be respected. By the same token Moscow should not forget our free will and disapproval of any possible intervention in our affairs.

## JAPAN TALKS ON PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX END

LD282014 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Feb 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, at the end of the third round of talks between the Iranian and Japanese partners on the Iran-Japan petrochemical complex in Tehran, the nine-man Japanese delegation left Iran today. The executive director of the Japanese company in charge of the petrochemical project in Iran who had been the head of the Japanese delegation in the talks in Tehran, at the end of the discussions between the two countries took part in an interview with our correspondent and talked about the results of the discussions of this delegation with the Iranian partners on the Iran-Japan petrochemical complex, and the steps which will be taken by the Japanese partners to complete the Iran-Japan petrochemical complex after the discussions in Tehran. He said: We had about 30 hours of discussions in which we exchanged views about the activities which we should have, and in which we discussed the differences of opinion which exist between the Japanese and the Iranian delegations. He added: As one cannot achieve any results without face-to-face discussions, we welcomed the opportunity which was provided to meet and have discussions with the Iranian delegation.

In reply to the question: After these discussions what steps will be taken by the Japanese partner to complete the joint Iran-Japan petrochemical complex? he said: There are many obstacles on the path which should be removed before we can complete such a great project. In our view, the obstacles which exist on the path are clear. Of course, we shall do our best to solve these problems.

Our correspondent asked the executive director of the Japanese company in charge of the petrochemical expansions in Iran, who is the leader of the Japanese delegation, about the 13 billion yen which has been paid by the Islamic Republic of Iran as the capital and interest of the first installment of the debts of the Iran-Japan petrochemical complex to Japanese banks. He asked: Will the Japanese partner also pay its debts on time or not? In answer, the leader of the Japanese delegation said: In our view, it is the Iran-Japan petrochemical complex which should pay the capital and interest of its debts to the Japanese company in charge of petrochemical expansion in Iran ICDC [expansion unknown]. Therefore, in these discussions we clearly asked our Iranian partners to make facilities available for the Iran-Japan petrochemical complex to pay the installments of its contributions to the Japanese company in charge of petrochemical expansion in Iran, ICDC. But, unfortunately, we did not achieve any desired and definite results.

At the end of this interview, our correspondent asked the leader of the delegation of the Japanese partners in Iran-Japan petrochemical complex: How do you see the future of this project and the prospects for mutual cooperation concerning this project? He replied: We had the opportunity to meet and have discussions with Mr Gharazi, minister of petroleum, and inform him of our wish to continue our cooperation with the Iranian partners. We added that we will do our best to complete this project.

CSO: 4640/182



MOJAHEDIN STATEMENT ON TEHRAN EXPLOSION

NCO31649 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Following the condemnation by some antiregime organizations and groups of the agents of Khomeyni's regime for the recent explosion in Tehran, yesterday the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization too blamed Khomeyni's regime for this explosion. The Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization issued a statement in Paris condemning Khomeyni's regime for planting a bomb in 'Eshratabad Avenue which led to the killing of a group of students and innocent people. We wish to recall that on the morning of the incident the Free Voice of Iran broadcasted parts of messages by monarchist groups and some armed antiregimed groups in which Khomeyni's regime and the hezbollahi scum had been identified as those responsible for this explosion. In its statement, the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization has recalled that Khomeyni's regime is responsible for the recent fires in Tehran, Shiraz and Qazvin.

This organization also revealed in Paris today that during the armed clashes which led to the death of Musa Khiyabani none of the members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, except Khiyabani's wife and Rajavi's wife, were killed. According to this report, the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization has claimed that the Mojahedin whose names were published by Khomeyni's regime in connection with the said armed clash were persons who had been previously tortured and executed in Evin Prison, and whose names were later mentioned by the regime among the people killed during the attack on Khiyabani's headquarters.

CSO: 4640/182

# HUMAN, ECONOMIC LOSSES OF MULLAH REGIME DESCRIBED

Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 11 Feb 82 p 3

[Report by Gerhard Bitzan: "Mismanagement by the Mullahs--Iran After 3 Years of Khomeyni Rule"]

[Text] The Ayatollah Khomeyni has every reason for celebrating. The fatal blow suffered early this week by Iran's most active opposition group, the Mojahedin, at the hands of the revolutionary guards, considerably extends the life expectancy of the regime. Thus the senile leader of the revolution can fully concentrate on the eulogies which have for the last 10 days been celebrating the third anniversary of Khomeyni's return from exile in Paris. The mullah government is attempting to show its humanitarian makeup by reopening several universities and by releasing a few prisoners on the occasion of the third anniversary of the Islamic revolution.

But eyewitnesses are unable to see any good aspects of the mullah regime after those 3 years. Mitia, a 20-year old Iranian woman, managed to escape the celebrated "Islamic revolution" just a few days ago. "Many people are scared to death," she says. "They are afraid that suddenly the door will open, someone will enter and simply say: I don't like your face." One never knows, she reports, whether a year or 2 ago one might have made a statement which today constitutes sufficient grounds for arrest. There is no limit to the arbitrariness of the Pazdan, the "revolutionary guards," who number about 150,000 in the whole country.

"It is enough to be standing on the street with a young man who is no relation, to be arrested. It is sufficient grounds for a married couple which has lost its marriage certificate. And since a legal opinion was handed down which declares the wives of arrested members of the opposition to be spoils of war, rape has been running rampant. Why," Mitia asks desperately, "is the West doing nothing about this bloody regime?"

## Only Verbal Protests From the West

It is a fact that no measures have been taken beyond a few verbal protests. While during the reign of the shah thousands of demonstrators had poured into the streets to protest against tortures, now there is nothing but resigned quiet. It is true that at this moment a "Committee for the Defense of Human

Rights in Iran" is being founded in Vienna, counting among its members prominent representatives of all the parties. Students have recently established a student organization consisting of sympathizers of the Mojahedin. And the Austrian embassy in Tehran has been ordered to call attention to human rights violations "at the appropriate opportunity."

But bloody repression continues. According to the last information from the International Legal Commission in Geneva, more than 35,000 people have been executed since the fall of the shah; more than 2,000 since Bani Sadr's dismissal last June alone. Opposition groups claim at least 8,000 executions. In trials the defendants usually have no means whatever of defending themselves. The practices of several revolutionary courts have developed some macabre dynamics of their own, even causing the Ayatollah Khomeyni himself to shake his head and to admit that irregularities had indeed taken place. The chief justice ayatollah recently admitted officially that about 4,000 political prisoners are under arrest, among them some 14-year-old boys. But the latter, he said, were segregated from the others and were given religious instruction.

As far as Mohammad Keiarishi, the Iranian charge d' affaires in Vienna, is concerned, all those statements are a part of a slander campaign which tries to "drag the Islamic republic into the dirt." The Mojahedin, he says, are terrorists who are fighting against the government. "That is why the most severe punishment available to us, capital punishment, is justifiable." Keiarishi indicates that a few Western journalists have the opportunity of verifying the "lies which are being spread about Iran" on the spot. Impossible conditions were set for a visit to Iran by Amnesty International (AI): among other things, AI would have been required to state publicly that the United States had the bloodiest regime on earth.

One can assume that during his 3 years in power the Ayatollah Khomeyni has ignored the economic situation of his country. Had he not done so, he would have little to celebrate. According to reliable sources, currency reserves have shrunk from \$14 billion during the last year of the reign of Shah Reza Pahlavi to \$700 million. Oil production has diminished from 5-6 million barrels per day to about 700,000 tons. There are about 5 million unemployed in the country. Well-informed circles state that because of this sad situation the Islamic financial experts are even prepared to commit a sacrilege: the crown jewels, the last asset covering the currency, which are well remembered by travelers to Iran, are to be gradually sold on world markets.

To improve this catastrophic economic situation was the task of emissaries who in recent weeks applied in Japan and Western Europe for emergency credits of about 700 million [Austrian] schillings each, which however were not granted because of insufficient security backing. Middlemen for the oil business were on the road also, even in Austria. The idea was to arrange for direct barter of oil for Western manufactured goods.

Until the present, the mullahs' economic methods were quite simple: to satisfy the needs of their adherents among the poor, they imported everything which could not be produced within their own country, regardless where it came from and in an entirely uneconomic manner. Thus, for instance, chickens and eggs were flown in aboard jumbo jets. The U.S. Department of Agriculture

recently announced that in 1981 about \$300 million worth of American agricultural products were delivered to Iran. This is expected to amount to \$500 million in 1982.

It is questionable whether in view of the looming national bankruptcy Western exporters will continue to do business with Iran. Hossein, who left Tehran last January, reports about the increasingly bad supply situation: "Many consumer goods for everyday use are rationed and available only with coupons. Heating oil is restricted to 20 liters per family per month; people are converting to coal as much as possible. Meat can only be bought with coupons, and then only 2 kilos per month for a family of four. Iranians are not at all used to standing in line in front of shops."

#### Enormous Expenditures for the War Against Iraq

Charge d'affaires Keiarishi remains an enthusiastic advocate of the Islamic revolution despite those figures. To him, the economy is merely a means for making society perfect, not an end in itself. "Our oil production is sufficient for our own needs; our needs are small. The drop in production was intentional." According to Keiarishi, agriculture is in better shape today than it was before--there is no more dependence upon the West. That is why Iran also needs less foreign currency. "Our country must bear the consequences of the revolution; it fights against counterrevolution, must live with Western boycott and is engaged in a war."

In effect, the paper ISLAMIC REPUBLIC estimates that the war imposed upon Tehran is costing the country almost 100 billion [Austrian] schillings for the period March 1981 to March 1982. That alone offsets 60 percent of earnings from oil exports. It is another matter that Iran has thus far refused any kind of mediation in this war. The leadership is quite satisfied with the fact that the army is tied down at the Iraqi front.

Mismanagement--that would characterize 3 years of Khomeyni in a nutshell, by Western standards. Paradoxically, the mullahs' regime has during the past few weeks become somewhat stronger again. Brutal repression and the bloody pursuit of the opposition have certainly contributed to the fact that there is only sporadic resistance now. The majority of the uneducated masses are still supporting Khomeyni; the government-operated media are doing their part. The various opposition groups in foreign countries, ranging from the monarchists to the left-wing Mojahedin, are in disunity. Many exiles believe that the only chance for a change within the country consists of the possibility that a struggle for power and jealousy among the mullahs could lead to self-annihilation.

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CSO: 4620/24

# RETRIBUTION, FOREIGN TRADE, LAND REFORM BILLS DISCUSSED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 8 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] After the ratification of the general points of the bill to nationalize foreign trade, a special commission was formed in the Majlis to study the details of the bill and present it for the second round of discussions. Because of the importance of this bill and its role in attaining another of the goals of the Islamic Republic, we held an interview with Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Yazdi, the deputy chairman of the special commission for studying the bill to nationalize foreign trade.

In this interview, you will read Mr Yazdi's views about the land reform bill and Paragraph "C" as well as the manner in which the retribution bill was questioned in the Judicial Commission.

First, Hojjatoleslam Yazdi was asked about the activities of the special commission and the procedure for studying the foreign trade nationalization bill. He answered:

According to one of the articles of the internal charter of the Majlis, we can form a commission to study those bills and plans which are important.

In the one year and a few months history of the Majlis, this is the first special commission which has been formed because of the importance of the plan.

A total of 15 people were chosen from the judicial, commerce, and industries commissions as well as those commissions which this bill concerns.

In the beginning, the authorities, especially those of the Ministry of Commerce and some of the authorities involved in the preparation of the bill, were invited to explain the general points and some of the issues. Then, the commission itself began its work and asked the Ministry of Commerce to provide a representative in every session to clarify matters if there were any problems. The first issue



discussed in the commission was whether, within the general framework of the proposed bill in the Majlis, we should follow the opinion the Ministry of Commerce or those of the Industries and Mines Commission. This issue was studied and discussed and it was decided that the discussions must be centered around the bill prepared by the Ministry of Commerce, the general points of which the Majlis has ratified.

The meaning of the term foreign trade is very clear: buying and selling abroad. Hence, if we look carefully at the bill, it mentions purchasing centers and export centers. The government will establish centers which will be responsible for purchasing our needs and selling what must be exported. Naturally, an understanding of world markets is necessary, which these centers must obtain since they are responsible for purchasing and selling at the most profit to the country. This cannot be left to an individual, because a merchant takes his own personal profit into consideration. The government must think about what item is needed throughout the country, where it should be purchased to be in the best interests of the country, both politically and economically, and then take steps to purchase it. Hence, the duty of the centers for purchases and sales consists of determining such issues. But this is not the whole argument. There are such issues as the storing, distribution, collection, and protection of goods and amounts needed, issues that must be considered before and after the purchase and before and after the sale. For such issues, we have planned companies called commercial services companies.

#### Commercial Services Companies

These companies, like government companies, will have a capital investment and a charter and profit and accounting inspections and their expenses will be paid by and they will receive capital from the government. These service companies will take over the responsibility for affairs before and after the purchase and sale. Naturally, the establishment of these centers for purchases and sales as well as the establishment of the centers for services require many regulations at both stages, which clarify, for instance, how many of these companies and centers must be established, what personnel is needed, how much their capital should be, how much their current expenses are, whether these centers and companies are supposed to create a series of large offices and place a heavy load on the shoulders of the government without being able to accomplish anything, and, in fact, become what they have at times been described as. The issue at hand is that the government can never become a good merchant, to come and hand over these offices and companies, to hire personnel, to place their current expenses on the shoulders of the government, and to take capital from the total national budget and allocate it to these centers and companies and in the end, when they are asked what they have done, they respond that they have had some losses in purchases and some in sales, and then we see that they have hired

beyond their needs [as published]. It is here that the delicate points of the bill begin, which have the government decide how many centers and in what areas they must be established and who should be the main members and who the directors. Here, the various articles of this bill begin.

### Half the Job Has Been Accomplished

Fortunately, I must say that presently we have accomplished, thank God, about half the job. Thusfar, the reforms, changes, and additions have been made. In most sessions, two persons were present from the Ministry of Commerce. It was even announced through the news media that those with opinions or views should bring them forward, although the Ministry of Commerce has done this. In fact, when we asked the Ministry of Commerce for the records of the bill, we realized that they had truly worked hard. And our people have cooperated fully with the Ministry of Commerce. And the experts have also given their opinions. The Ministry of Commerce has compiled all these, looked at their advantages, compared them and studied them. And we announced that we will study the plans and issues which have been received from the experts. Along with the views that the representatives have offered in accordance with the internal charter, we have accomplished about half the work. Of course, I must also say that the special commission, after finishing the first round, will make revisions. It will invite representatives who have given suggestions to come and explain those suggestions that the commission has examined. In the end, the final views of the commission will be given about the bill, since I would like this job to be done very well, to exemplify what the Majlis has accomplished during the past year, and it has accomplished many essential tasks.

The commission should present the results of its work by next month at the latest to the open session and we hope that the bill will be prepared in such a way that when it comes to the Majlis, it will not take much time, that the honorable representatives will be able to easily express their opinions, and that we will be able to go ahead and have this be one of the important accomplishments of the Majlis.

### The Bill of Retribution

Question: Still, after a long time of study, the bill of retribution has not come before the Majlis. Please explain the problems of bringing the bill before the Majlis and how it is to be examined.

In response to this question, I must say that the bill of retribution was put aside because it did not have the signature of the minister of justice, because, at that time, there was no minister of justice, and it could not be presented as a bill until it was signed by the minister of justice. During this period, a proposal was prepared which takes care of some of the immediate problems of the revolution court until that bill is ratified. That plan has been faced with a

problem. It contained somewhere in it that it must be acted upon in accordance with the issues stated in Imam Khomeyni's "Tahrir al-Vasileh." The Council of Guardians determined that since "Tahrir al-Vasileh" is in Arabic and since in the Constitution, the official language is Persian, this would be contrary to the Constitution and that the laws must be in Persian. Naturally, it must be a translation of "Tahrir al-Vasileh." This was amended by the commission.

But, although the word translation was added, in practice, the three books of restrictions and retributions had to be translated. The Judicial Commission, in order to expedite the work, decided to have the work divided and a part of it became my responsibility. I finished my work and it has been announced to the Commission. If the others have also finished, they should bring them in to be put at the disposal of the Majlis.

Meanwhile, a translation was prepared by the Supreme Judicial Council which, in my opinion, had been worked on considerably, but was not sufficient for legislation and for the implementors. There were also charts prepared and there were vague statements which could not have been handled by the implementors of the law. A clear statement must be given to the implementor. This is the delicacy of legislation, that a certain issue which exists in scholarly or in legal language must be put into legal trappings to be given to the implementors. And the law must have a special form. What had come from the Supreme Judicial Council could not have been characterized as such. The translation that was done did not look as the implementor thought it should. I prepared a free translation of it and said that the law had not specified what sort of translation must be done. I translated article by article and we brought the issue before the Judicial Commission. It was approved and the others were asked to use this style. Obviously, such work takes time. Recently, it was decided that the minister of justice should sign the bill, to solve the problem, and return it to the Majlis as a new bill. This was done. Since, of course, it was prepared during the time of martyr Raja'i and now it is the premiership of his honor, Musavi, as a new bill, it has been returned with the signature of these gentlemen to the Judicial Commission. It has passed through the preliminary stages which will be on the agenda of the Judicial Commission in the near future. The Judicial Commission has done its best in the course of the retribution bill because it wanted both to follow the law to the letter and also to make the job of the revolution courts easy. The problem of not having a minister of justice has caused these complications and we hope that now it will reach its final stages.

#### The Land Reform Bill

We asked Hojjatoleslam Yazdi about the land reform bill and Paragraphs "C" and "D." He said:

In response to this question, I will quote you a statement from the honorable representative from Shiraz. When the foreign trade bill was in the Majlis for the first vote, he made a very interesting statement. He said, "Let us discuss this bill as we really should. Do not create an atmosphere similar to that during Paragraph "C," when those who opposed it were called reactionary and those who supported it were called intellectuals."

An unpleasant and inappropriate atmosphere undeserving of the Islamic Republic of Iran was created concerning the issue of Paragraph "C." When I was in the presence of the imam in a session where this and a similar issue was raised, the imam alluded to that famous poem and said that he was afraid that it would be like the story of the slaves pulling up the tree from the root, that if he said something, they would create the impression that anyone who opposes it is a reactionary, and old-fashioned, and does not know Islam at all and, on the other hand, anyone who supports it is like an angel descended from Heaven. Also, in an audience with Ayatollah Montazeri, I told him: You are like capital for Islam and you must be useful for Islam in the future. Should it be that for a minor issue, they say that Mr Reza Esfahani has said so. Is this the right policy? I believe that your position is higher than this. If Paragraph "C" is your religious decree, the people are not emulating you. The people are emulating the imam and the other sources of emulation. And, if it is not your decree, whose is it? Is it from you, personally, or is it from the imam? If it is from the imam, why do you not tell the people, people who give their lives and property. Just say that the imam has said so. If the imam has not said so, your statement cannot have an impact like that of the imam. Then you will be crushed and we do not want you to be crushed, because your peers are religious scholars like yourself and they also have opinions. You say it is permissible; they say it is not. In any case, I asked him if without employing theocratic rule the legitimate property of anyone can be taken away. He said, no. I asked if it can be taken away by employing theocratic rule. He said, yes.

#### Employing Theocratic Rule

I have said this in private sessions. My permitted and legally acquired robe can be taken away from me by the theocratic ruler through imposing theocratic rule. He can say, for instance, that the robe is needed for war victims. I must readily comply and I do not have the right to say no. But, without employing theocratic rule, if I have two robes and one is extra, it is not right for you to have it by calling on a religious law. No religious scholar, no imam, and no prophet has the right to do so, because God has said that one can have even two robes, if they are acquired legitimately. Then, if the land is more than is customary in the area, even three times more than is customary, and they are going to take it from the owner, the issue is whether the owner has acquired it through



legitimate or illegitimate means. If he has acquired it illegitimately, they should take all of it away, not only the extra of the three times the customary amount in the area. And if he has acquired it legitimately, for what reason should they take away what is even more than three times the land customary for the area? Should they take it away by imposing theocratic rule or without it? Without the imposition of theocratic rule, it is certainly forbidden by religious law and with the imposition of the rule, it is certainly permissible. But, who is the theocratic ruler? He said, the imam. I asked: Has the imam said it or not? If the imam has said it, the problem is resolved. But, if you do not say that the imam has said it, then you are faced with this problem. Now, the issue of whether theocratic rule will be transferred from the imam to Mr Montazeri or Mr Meshkini is an issue argued by our religious jurists. Many do not agree with it and do not think it can be transferred and many others consider it permissible. And some of them do not accept either. In a meeting, we even told Mr Meshkini, "Sir, why do you do this? Tell us officially that the imam has said so and then we will solve it. We still do not know what logic is behind this." Fortunately, Mr Montazeri asked me what I would suggest. I said, learn from the imam. He asked, how? I said, whatever happens, the imam leaves it to the Majlis. He says, the Majlis will take care of it. And he will place any blame on those responsible. He says, go to the authorities and talk to them. Here, too, the imam has said, go to Mr Meshkini and Mr Montazeri and solve the problem. Now, the imam has left this in your hands. Anyway, you leave it to the Majlis and the problem will be resolved. The Majlis, or the young people, or the revolutionaries will solve it somehow. No matter what, you will not be sacrificed in the course of these events, because you are useful to Islam. Fortunately, he accepted and from that meeting on, whenever he came to the Friday prayers, little by little, he talked about the issue until the suspension of Paragraph "C" was officially announced.

9593

CSO: 4640/164



SAUDI ARABIA DENOUNCED FOR TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 28 Feb 82 p 3

[Communique of the Organization of the Islamic Revolution in the Arab Peninsula]

[Text]

**The following is a communique dispatched by the Organization for Islamic Revolution in the Arabian Peninsula in regard to the recent ban on travel to Iran by Saudi citizens enacted by the Saudi regime.**

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

"They desire to put out the light of Allah with their mouths, but Allah will perfect His light, though the unbelievers may be averse." (Qur'an Sura:61, verse: 8).

Has there remained any pretext by which the Saudi regime can introduce itself as a defender of Islam and a supporter of Muslims? Never! The regime has committed every possible criminal action that it could.

Lately, simultaneous with the U.S. defense minister's trip to Riyadh, a military and security accord was signed between the Saudi regime and the U.S.

Also, the Saudi rulers have signed agreements with the anti-Islamic Arab regimes such as Morocco and Iraq, against the Islamic Revolution in Iran. They prevent the Muslim people of the Arab Peninsula from travelling to Iran.

O Saudi rulers! Travellers are treated in an Islamic manner in Iran. The Islamic Republic of Iran does not have the behavior that you have toward our Muslim people. You have the worst inhuman conduct. In Iran, they do not pay American advisors and employees the money called "the fee for savagery" that you pay them.

O you Saudi statesmen! You are not afraid of the Iranians' bad conduct towards travellers, but you are afraid of the familiarity of our people with the Islamic Revolution in Iran which has terrified you like a thunderbolt.

You prevent the travel of the people of the Arab Peninsula to Iran, whereas you incite them to travel to countries where corruption is rampant. Why have you decreased the cost of trips to Bangkok and any other place which might change the people's morale?

Before anybody's leaving the country in the past, you told him "everywhere except Israel and socialist countries". But travellers are now, only told, "except Iran", while in fact, there is an Islamic regime ruling in Iran. So, where has your Islamic solidarity gone?

The near future will prove that preventing our people from travelling to Iran will bring about further brotherhood between the peoples of the Arab Peninsula and Iran.

Islam is victorious. Death to the rulers of the Arab Peninsula.

The Organization of the Islamic Revolution in the Arab Peninsula.

Feb. 22, 1982

## BRIEFS

LACK OF MONEY FOR WAR--UPI has reported that informed circles and experts on oil affairs have confirmed the report that Khomeyni's regime has reduced the price of its export oil by \$2 a barrel. Therefore, the mullahs' Islamic Republic is selling each barrel of oil at \$30.20 while the OPEC price is \$34. According to informed sources, Khomeyni's regime is compelled to resort to such a measure; because of the ruling mullahs' inefficiency, Iran's foreign exchange reserves have been depleted completely and the last resort is to sell oil at an even lower price than \$30. According to informed sources, Khomeyni's regime urgently needs foreign exchange for the continuation of the war with Iraq. We wish to point out that last week we had a report that the armed forces commanders have informed Khomeyni that they need \$6 million to be able to continue the war with Iraq. [Text] [NC261522 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 25 Feb 82]

MONTAZERI STRESSES TRAINING--According to the Central News Unit, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Politico-Ideological Department of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran met with Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom this morning. During this meeting he presented a report on the achievements of his department. Afterwards, Ayatollah Montazeri spoke and emphasized that it is necessary for the country's military and security organs to reach self-sufficiency [as heard] in the fields of ideology and Islamic culture as soon as possible, with the help of their clergy brothers. In order to reach this important target, provocative acts and ignorant excesses should be avoided. [Text] [LD261120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 82]

KHIYABANI PRE-DEATH STATEMENT--The Mojahedin-e Khalq Paris branch has issued a statement revealing that a few days before being killed by Revolution Guards, Musa Khiyabani had sent a recording of his voice to Mas'ud Rajavi. According to this report Musa Khiyabani had said in his message that despite the arrest of a large number of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization members by agents of Khomeyni's regime, the Mojahedins' struggle continue and, contrary to rumors, the intensity of these struggles has not been decreased. The organization's spokesman in Paris added that in his message Musa Khiyabani informed Rajavi about the clerical regime's political, economic and military situation and explained the situation of the Mojahedin-e Khalq in Iran. [Text] [NC271702 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1805 GMT 26 Feb 82]

PLO TRYING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS--According to a Voice of Iran correspondent, PLO leaders are trying to improve their deteriorated relations with leaders of the Islamic regime so that the Tehran regime's financial assistance to the

Palestinians can be resumed. Our correspondent reports that following the disturbances in Hamah in northern Syria, the Palestinians are concerned and pessimistic about the future of Hafiz al-Asad's regime. This is the reason they have decided to normalize their relations with Tehran again so that, in case of the Syrian regime's downfall, they can have another friend in the region and enjoy its financial aids. On the basis of the same report, visits by Palestinian delegations to Tehran continue, and the participation of PLO officials in the mullahs' official ceremonies have been resumed after months of inactivity. Meanwhile, the PLO representative in Iran met with Sheykh Montazeri in Qom on Thursday, and at the end of this meeting he stressed the friendly and fraternal relations between the Palestinians and Khomeyni's regime. [Text] [NC271651 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 26 Feb 82]

EXCLUSIVE SCHOOL IN TEHRAN--A Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that the mullahs who pay great lipservice to social equality and justice and declare that their only objective is to defend the oppressed, do not refrain from fulfilling any personal wish they have when it comes to themselves. According to the same report, in addition to having plundered the nation's wealth, the efforts by officials of Khomeyni's illegal regime toward the welfare and comfort of the turbaned group is such that it is unprecedented even in the most aristocratic rules in the world. Namely, on Fereshteh Street in northern Tehran and in the confiscated residence of one of Iran's former ambassadors, an American cadre has been hired by the communist school which has closed down and an exclusive school has been set up which has only 10 students. These are the children of the high-ranking mullahs of the regime. The interesting point is that in this school, like the former international schools, most of the lessons are taught in English. A source close to the school told our correspondent that when he went to the school to register his child, the American principal of the school expressed regrets and said that she was unable to register ordinary students and that their students were limited to these 10 students. We wish to recall that the school for the ruling mullahs' children is at the end of Fereshteh Avenue, and (?five Revolution Guards always guard it). [Text] [NC272134 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 27 Feb 82]

U.S. VIEW OF IRAQ'S TERRORISM AID--Together with UN mediation efforts for the establishment of peace between Iran and Iraq, the U.S. administration has dropped Iraq from the list of countries that support terrorism in the world. (?Meanwhile) regimes like (?Libya and Syria) are included on this list. The United States and (?Iraq) have not had diplomatic relations for many years and it is (?in view of this) that nine U.S. congressmen (?condemned the U.S. administration for wanting to terminate its impartiality in the Iraq-Iran war). Meanwhile, world news agencies have reported that the U.S. administration has assured that the omission of Iraq (?does not mean that arms will be sold to that country) but that this was done because (?during the past few years) Iraq has not supported terrorism. The United States has boycotted the sale of arms and war materiel to countries on the list of supporters of terrorism. [Text] [NC271028 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 27 Feb 82]

DEPUTY MINISTER MEETS AMAL OFFICIALS--The Central News Unit reports that Abu Hesham, deputy leader of the Leading Council and the official spokesman of the Amal Movement in Lebanon, and Seyyed Ebrahim (Al'Ami), the representative of

the Amal Movement in Tehran, met and conferred with Mr Ahmad 'Azizi, the deputy minister of foreign affairs, this evening. At this meeting the latest developments of the Amal Movement and the conspiracies of U.S. imperialism and Zionism in Lebanon were discussed. [Text] [LD271748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 82]

UK KORDESTAN REPORT--Iran's Kordestan does not face the danger of separation. This assurance was given by the London State Radio to its Iranian listeners. The London State Radio, quoting an article published in the British newspaper GUARDIAN, parts of which were broadcast last night from the said radio, added that at present no negotiations are being held between Kurdish forces and the central government in Tehran. Meanwhile, quoting a Kurdish spokesman, it was said that all the connecting roads of Iran's Kordestan are controlled by Kurdish forces. This report contradicts the initial report by the London State Radio which had said that Iran's Kordestan does not face the danger of separation. We wish to recall that several parties and political groups are active in Iran's Kordestan. Some of these believe in autonomy for Kordestan within a framework of a united Iran and have no plans for the secession of Kordestan. [Text] [NC272115 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 27 Feb 82]

MULLAHS' MISSION IN FRG--According to Paris news agencies, the office of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, Paris branch, has disseminated documents which have once more exposed the criminal plans of the mullahs' regime. According to the report, the aforementioned documents pertain to the mullahs' Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Khomeyni's revolutionary prosecutor. On the basis of these documents, a group of Revolution Guards left secretly for the FRG with diplomatic passports to liquidate opponents of the mullahs' regime who live in the FRG. [Text] [GF281058 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 28 Feb 82]

DISCOVERY OF MASS GRAVE--A number of mass graves have been found around Tehran. The Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that following the recent heavy rains, which caused flooding in deserts around Tehran, a mass grave was found in (Shahin Shahr) near (Mesgar Abad). In this grave tens of executed and bloody bodies were buried together in nylon sacks. After people of the region came to the site, guards and committee members arrived and cordoned off the mass grave. According to reports, the guards and committee members drove the people from the grave and then moved the bodies to another location. [Text] [GF281718 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 28 Feb 82]

EXPORT OF REVOLUTION TO SAUDI--The U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT in its latest issue has reported that the mullahs' government in Iran has allocated about \$18 million for the export of the Islamic revolution to Saudi Arabia. Following the discovery of the plot to export the Islamic revolution to Bahrain and the arrest of a number of Khomeyni's Islamic saboteurs, the small countries of the Persian Gulf have signed a joint defense treaty, and in so doing have come under the protection of Saudi Arabia. Therefore, the Islamic Republic has as its main aim the overthrow of the Saudi Arabian Government and has allocated \$18 million of the Iranian nation to create unrest and to export the Islamic revolution to Saudi Arabia. [Text] [GF281708 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1300 GMT 28 Feb 82]



ASSASSINATIONS OF KHOMEYNI'S ALLIES--Three of Khomeyni's allies have been the targets of the bullets of freedom fighters. One of them was 'Abbas Chamran, brother of the destroyed Mostafa Chamran, who was active in the regime's security organization. His other brother, Mehdi Chamran, is the head of Khomeyni's security organization. The second person was Mullah Mostafa Hojjati, who was active on the revolution committees. Finally, the third person was Mullah 'Ali Taheri, son of the Esfahan Friday imam. He was killed on his way to Tehran. The propagandists of the regime have been trying to pretend that he was killed on the warfront. As far as we know, since the start of the war only one son of a mullah has been among the more than 70,000 Iranian youths martyred on the fronts. His father is the prayer leader in a Qazvin mosque. [Text] [GF012113 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 1 Mar 82]

ANTIQUITY SALES ABROAD--News agencies have reported that following the warnings and protests by Iranian patriots in various parts of the world also the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization's Paris branch issued a statement, announcing that it considers the purchase of national relics and antiques belonging to the palaces of Iran by foreign merchants as an anti-Iranian act and an attempt to trample on the rights of the Iranian nation. It should be recalled that the clerical majlis recently approved a bill by virtue of which the government has the right to sell all the antiques of the Iranian palaces on international markets. We have a report by our correspondent in Tehran in relation with this. This report indicates that the regime's higher authorities intend to deposit the profits from the sale of Iran's national relics in their personal accounts in European banks. In reaction to this revelation, the regime's authorities claimed that after the sale of antiques and Iran's national relics the money will be deposited in the regime's central bank. Meanwhile, in connection with Iran's economic situation, in the near future Mas'ud Rajavi announced that in view of the economy's complete bankruptcy the Islamic government will be unable to pay the wages of its employees and this will lead to increased dissatisfaction among the people throughout the country. [Text] [NC021326 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 1 Mar 82]

FOREIGN SCHOOL IN QOM--Our correspondent reports that a college for foreign languages has been set up in (?the Qom Theological School). This report states that the College of Foreign Languages is actually limited to several short-term English and French classes and that the participants in these classes (?are a number of theological students). [Text] [NC021300 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 2 Mar 82]

GASOLINE SHORTAGE HURTING DRIVERS--Drivers and owners of pickup vehicles are forced to do compulsory work for Khomeyni's regime in order to obtain gasoline coupons. The amount of compulsory work is 3 days a week and the owner or driver of the vehicle cannot get gasoline for more than 3 days. They are also obliged to pay 500 rials in cash to obtain coupons for fuel for their own vehicles, which they have to pay immediately. The reduction in the plying hours of the pickup vans is due to the regime's dwindling fuel resources. It is being said in Tehran that the working hours of this industrious group of our compatriots will soon be decreased again. [Text] [GF030620 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 2 Mar 82]

ARREST OF MOJAHEDIN IN MASHHAD--Reports from Mashhad indicate that the regime's guards, with the cooperation of agents of the mullahs' espionage organization, have arrested 40 people opposing Khomeyni's regime. According to these reports, those arrested are members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization. The confiscated newspaper KEYHAN, while reporting this, refrained from giving details of how the arrests were made. News agencies reported from Paris that the Mojahedin-e Khalq revealed in a statement that during events leading to the death of Musa Khiabani and a number of Rajavi colleagues a couple who owned the house where they were living disappeared. The whereabouts of the young children in the hideout at the time of the guards' attack are unknown. Agencies pointed out that the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization asked international human rights organizations last week to start necessary investigations to obtain information about these missing persons. [Excerpts] [GF031440 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 3 Mar 82]

CSO: 4640/182

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN AL-'ADSANI INTERVIEWED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1316, 22 Jan 82 pp 19-21

[Interview with Chairman of the Kuwaiti National Assembly Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adsani, by Nasha't al-Taghlabani: "Unrest In the Gulf Is Regional; We Do Not Depend on Non-Arabs!" date and place not specified]

[Text] When the Saudi Arabian minister of the interior declared that the espionage network, which was discovered in Bahrain and whose activities were planned and guided by Iran, was not confined only to Bahrain, but also was aimed at all the Gulf states, many questions were prompted in the region: What arrangements will follow such a warning as this? Will the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] whose purpose was coordination concerning economic, financial, social and cultural affairs among the Gulf states, be transformed into a council for security coordination, in the present circumstances? How will the Gulf states face up to the attempts that are perpetrated against them, since the differences, as we know, among the Arab nations make mutual defense among them totally inoperative?

In the midst of this atmosphere charged with contradictory questions, the Kuwaiti National Assembly expressed the wish that the individuals of the sabotage network, who were arrested in Bahrain, be given public trials, so that the masses will be aware of the plot they were hatching.

Kuwait went through a similar experience last year, when some persons tried to stir up domestic unrest and upheaval. The matter was dealt with successfully with security measures, and what had happened was reported to the people, or rather, to all the Arab peoples, through public trials that hid nothing, on the basis that people who know the facts are more capable of confronting danger than those who are ignorant of everything, or at least of what they should not be ignorant.

The Kuwaiti theory was sound, and in fact proved to be correct. From this starting point, and at the request of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, AL-HAWADITH met with assembly Chairman Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adsani, in a frank interview concerning the various issues occupying the attention of the Gulf people.

It is worth noting that Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adsani has occupied several important posts, in addition to his present one. He was his country's ambassador in Beirut, mayor of Kuwait and after that, minister for public works and planning.

[Question] Before the recent elections in Kuwait, some attempts that might be described as attempts at anarchy were noted. After the elections these attempts stopped completely, as if the elections for the National Assembly had some influence on them. Do you support this view, or do you consider it merely a coincidence? Or was it due to the security measures that were recently taken?

[Answer] I believe that it was the last aspect, that is that the security measures had the most effective influence on this matter. All of what happened in Kuwait was alien to the country and to Kuwaiti society. The elements that carried it out were in fact foreigners and aliens. They did what they did to achieve specific goals. On this basis, there is no reason to connect them to the parliamentary elections. In addition, the people's awareness, due to the government's desire to inform the masses concerning what had occurred, through the holding of public trials of the accused, led to the cessation of that wave of attempts and to their eradication.

[Question] We would like to know your views, in your capacity as chairman of the National Assembly on the one hand, and a former diplomat on the other:

1. The air raids launched by Iranian aircraft against Kuwaiti territory, was the purpose merely to warn, or to prepare for an attack, or to attack?
2. The espionage network that was uncovered in Bahrain, and the Saudi interior minister's statement that the plot was not just aimed at Bahrain alone, but rather at all the Gulf states.

[Answer] The fact is that the Iranian raids against Kuwait, which occurred two or three times, were, according to Iranian sources, targetted against the Iraqi border and not Kuwaiti territory. It is worth mentioning here that, despite the fact that Iranian officials denied that any raids had occurred against Kuwaiti territory, there is indisputable proof that the raids in fact did occur. There may have been some error, that is, the Iranian pilots may have erred in aiming at their targets, and hit Kuwaiti installations, instead of Iraqi installations. However, this does not justify hitting oil installations. This is the point that calls for deep consideration and study, since striking this kind of installation must have been deliberate. Moreover, it is difficult to know the true intentions, despite the fact that relations between Kuwait and Iran are still existent. Is there a desire to drag Kuwait into the Iraqi-Iranian war, or was the desire only confined to striking oil installations? Or is there something else? In fact, there is more than one question. In any event, we hope that what happened will not be repeated; it could lead to what no one wants.

With regard to the espionage ring in Bahrain, I believe that it would be premature to make a definite judgment based on the news that has been broadcast

so far. Nevertheless, one must take into account the viewpoints of the Bahraini authorities, whose investigations showed the matter to have been prearranged and that the planning for it was done in Iran. In addition to that, the Saudi minister of interior based his statements on official information available as a result of interrogations with members of the sabotage network. We in Kuwait have asked in the National Assembly that the suspects who were arrested in Bahrain be tried in public, because public trials will reveal the dimensions of the plots that the network was charged with implementing, and will make all their secrets clear. We hope that the Government of Bahrain will comply with this request.

[Question] In your opinion, why was Bahrain chosen for a sabotage operation instead of some other Gulf nation?

[Answer] Perhaps that stemmed from the plotters' belief that Bahrain is the weakest Gulf state in terms of security. In any event, this is a personal opinion.

[Question] Could it not be also that the choice stemmed from the previous Iranian claim, during the late shah's regime, that Bahrain was a part of Iranian territory?

[Answer] I don't believe that. You know that there is a current diplomatic exchange between Bahrain and Iran. Iran has officially recognized the independence of Bahrain.

[Question] Recognition and diplomatic exchange occurred during the shah's rule. They could be withdrawn.

[Answer] After the revolution in Iran, no Iranian officials made reference to any claims regarding Bahrain.

[Question] After the revolution, Iranian officials refused to make any changes in the situation of the three islands, which the shah's forces had occupied. This means that Iran has specific goals that it wants to achieve in the region.

[Answer] Perhaps this is true, but in my opinion, the claim to Bahrain is not under study at the present time.

[Question] Iran has no need to make a claim for Bahrain. It can achieve what it wants through a domestic coup, if it wants to. This leads us to a specific question, which we believe occupies the minds of many at the present time. This question pertains to the foreign workforce. You are aware that the foreign workforce occupies a large part of the labor force in the Gulf region. Do you think that this workforce is under control security-wise?

[Answer] The workforce in the Gulf area is made up of three parts. The biggest portion of the Arab part is Egyptian workers. There is an Asian part, and there is a traditional workforce, which are Indian and Pakistani workers. In my estimation, regarding the first workforce, that is those coming from



the Arab states, there is no doubt that all of them are anxious for stable security in the country. Most of them enjoy a pan-Arab sentiment that would cause them to shy away from taking part in any action that would damage the country. In addition, their jobs here helps them to meet the burdens of life. Regarding the foreign workers, most of them are menial workers. Nevertheless, many precautions must be taken regarding them, especially pertaining to the workforce coming from the Far East, which is organized. Despite the fact that this workforce does not constitute a real danger, I believe that under the aegis of the GCC, and existing treaties among the Gulf states, the cooperation present in the entire Gulf framework will help to meet any eventuality. Based on that premise, it can be stressed that the foreign workforce is contained, security-wise.

[Question] Another thing. There are a not inconsiderable number of Iranians in the Gulf area. There are two groups, those who are old-time residents, and those who have arrived recently. There is no doubt that most of the old-time residents have become a part of the Gulf community, so that it would be difficult for them to harm it, especially since the damage would ultimately harm themselves as well. As for the newcomers, it is not unlikely that they could be either subject to specific pressures, or that they could volunteer to carry out foreign plans themselves. Of course, security circles are aware, through their screening of newcomers and following up their activities, the percentage of those whose loyalty is to Iran alone, the percentage of those whose loyalties are only to their own interests, and finally the percentage of those whose loyalty is to the region that supports them.

[Answer] The answer to this question might be difficult, because it is impossible for anyone to really get to the bottom of someone, especially if they believe in a specific ideology, or if they have an unrevealed goal. However, in my estimation, based on present economic conditions, most of the Iranians came seeking a livelihood. Even if they have a specific ideology, their primary goal is to make a living. If there are factions with dual loyalties, or that are striving for special goals, it would be impossible to find them out unless they carry out some activity or other in pursuit of it. In this respect, the security apparatus is responsible for counteracting any foreign plots at the appropriate time.

[Question] If we were to take some precedents, we must certainly note, for example, that at the outset of independence for the Gulf states, and the crisis of the three islands, groups of armed and trained Iranians appeared in the UAE, prepared to support the intervening Iranian forces. Of course, that was a part of the shah's plots. Now, it is discovering a sabotage network in Bahrain. That might mean that Iran's method of interference has not changed that much. Can a realistic and radical cure be found for this issue, especially after it has in fact been confirmed that Iran intends to export its revolution?

[Answer] Let us suppose that dual loyalty does in fact exist. There might be infiltrated elements, slipped in, one way or another to create unrest in the area. However, making a clear and definitive judgment must be based on specific factors. These factors might be available, if the true dimensions of

the sabotage network in Bahrain become known, through public trials and publication of the full details of the confessions of the network's members. As for what happened in the past, perhaps that was only connected with the shah and his special claims. As regards the question of exporting the revolution, in my opinion, nothing gives nothing. All of us know the conditions in Iran at the present time. In any event, the official Iranian statements were contradictory about this matter. There are those who in fact want to export the revolution, and there are those who are opposed. However, the fact is that the best way to deal with this issue is publicity in dealing with the saboteurs and plotters. Publicity! Uncovering the truth of the goals, on the official and popular levels would destroy any hostile plots.

[Question] I've noted that you have concentrated on completing the investigations of the saboteurs in Bahrain, and putting them on public trial, on the basis that that would lead to uncovering everything. However, it is well known that in such cases, the planning for them depends upon a system of cells, that is to say that the espionage network in Bahrain might not have been aware of everything. Therefore, the network's personnel would only know what demands they were to carry out. Consequently, it would be difficult to learn the truth of what the plotters themselves wanted.

[Answer] We cannot necessarily assume that the cell system was applied. However, my personal opinion is that the first threads are sufficient to get to the source, especially since we live in a small environment, where the population is limited. It is easy to expose everything and to know about it, in contrast to large cities and densely populated areas.

Nevertheless, I can say that, in the present circumstances, we are facing up to our situation with frankness, wisely and clearly, and that we can in fact distinguish between those who are loyal to this country and those who have dual loyalties, i.e., we can separate the agents from the honorable men. We are dealing with those two factions on this basis, that everyone is punished for what he does. I will not hide from you the fact that Iran's media campaign is unjustified against the Gulf states, and it might result in some pro-Iranian extremists carrying out irresponsible actions...or illogical. In this regard, we must also not forget the world struggle regarding the Gulf. It is a struggle between the superpowers, or more correctly, between right and left. Both sides might make use of elements to further their mission of stirring up unrest, and thus justifying intervention. We must take all this into consideration and take precautions in light of it.

[Question] It is said that the war between Iraq and Iran has resulted in the flight of some capital from the Gulf area. Is this true?

[Answer] If we look at the economic reality in Kuwait, we find that capital is coming in, not fleeing. After the economic chaos in the West and the fall of certain currencies, capital began to shift from Europe and America to here. Many commercial, investment and other firms have recently begun to appear in the Gulf and Kuwaiti markets. Moreover, cash liquidity is at an unprecedented level.

[Question] With regard to oil, Kuwait has reduced its production to 700,000 barrels a day. It is said that it has begun to import some gas. What is the effect of that on the Kuwaiti economy?

[Answer] Reduction of oil production has in fact occurred. As for gas, I don't have any information about that. In any event, reducing the production of oil has no effect on the Kuwaiti economy. Oil production was reduced as a result of the glut on the world market, and also, keeping a reserve underground is better than the risk of reducing currency 10 to 15 percent every year or risking a drop in its purchasing power.

[Question] When the civil war in Lebanon broke out and disrupted the stability that that country had enjoyed, it was said that Kuwait would replace Lebanon and become an international financial market. However, that has not happened. What are the reasons?

[Answer] The fact is that Cairo was the candidate to become an international financial market. It became evident that that would be difficult, whether regarding Cairo or Athens. As for Kuwait, it has played this role, but not at the expense of Lebanon.

[Question] What are your expectations regarding the Gulf Cooperation Council?

[Answer] The GCC came about as a result of bilateral agreements among the Gulf nations, concluded at different times, in addition to the close ties among these states. There are also mutual interests in the region. The Gulf Council was the crowning of all these factors. All of us welcome its establishment, and we hope that it will make progress toward its goals. In my estimation, the beginning was very good, although, as in all beginnings, it was not free of defects. We are working for success.

[Question] Defects?

[Answer] They may not be defects in the true sense of the word, but I mean that the people want to develop faster than it has so far, that it be more harmonious and cooperative than it is now. Nevertheless, it is difficult to make a judgment at this early date on this very important action.

[Question] Do I understand from that statement that there is a difference between the will of the people and the will of the governments in the region?

[Answer] No. I hope that I am not being cornered on this issue.

[Question] Never. This was the statement and the reaction from 'Abdullah Bisharah, secretary general of the GCC. He demanded popular awareness to put pressure on the rulers, so that the GCC can achieve the desired goals.

[Answer] The Kuwaiti National Assembly has also demanded that the people have a role in the union represented by the GCC, in order to increase its impetus.

[Question] In any event, the GCC represents in fact a kind of union. However, it cannot be denied that disputes are still present. While they might be trivial differences, their triviality cannot negate their existence. For example, there are border disputes and the like.

[Answer] They are not so much disputes as they are differences of judgment.

[Question] What the people want, in our opinion, is that the GCC not be changed into another form of the League of Arab States.

[Answer] I believe that the council's situation is different from the League's. As I said, it was the result of old and close ties and mutual interests.

[Question] And a mutual security situation also.

[Answer] Security is an important part of every state's concerns.

[Question] The Gulf states have always rejected any outside interference, especially in defense matters, while the Western nations have always stressed that the Gulf states are too weak to be able to meet an attack against them or to face up to an attempt to spread discord and anarchy. If we define who is the aggressor, we can say it is either the Soviet Union, which is unlikely, or Iran, or even Israel through indirect means. Is the Gulf actually able to confront this kind of outside threat without assistance?

[Answer] It is within the ability of the GCC and those Arab brothers behind it to confront any external attack.

[Question] The Arab brothers, in their present condition?

[Answer] Even in their present condition. They might not use arms, but they could assist with pressures and diplomatic means. If there were interference by a major power or a surrogate, it goes without saying that we could not prevail, but that is unlikely.

[Question] If we assume the worst, and we repeat what American sources say about the possibility of Soviet expansion from Afghanistan to Iran to the Gulf, and the United States was compelled to intervene, what would the Gulf's position be in a case like this?

[Answer] If a confrontation occurred between the United States and the Soviet Union, no other positions would have any importance. However, if the confrontation was preceded by action which resulted in war between those two camps, in that event the positions would be determined in light of those incidents.

[Question] Do you believe that there is uneasiness in the Gulf region over this?

[Answer] The whole world is uneasy. Naturally, the Gulf area is also uneasy, especially since no one knows now how the Iraqi-Iranian war will end, or what its effect on the area is likely to be. On the other hand, the increasingly dangerous disputes between the two superpowers, and the likelihood of the Gulf being an arena for their struggle, also justifies the presence of uneasiness. However, the important point is that this unease does not go beyond the bounds of reason and logic, and that no measure is overlooked to meet every situation in accordance with its given factors.

7005

CSO: 4404/248



NEWSPAPER STRESSES NEED FOR GULF AGRICULTURAL COMMON MARKET

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 9 Feb 82 p 7

[Article by Sami al-Haddad: "AL-SIYASAH Raises the Idea of Establishing a Common Agricultural Market for the Gulf Countries and the Arabian Peninsula"]

[Text] The council of foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] recently referred projects for food security which concern the area to the appropriate committees to study preparatory to implementing them. This step comes at a time when there is a pressing need to set up a unified economic policy for the countries of the area that would ensure stability and fulfill the aspirations of its peoples.

With the aim of providing food security in the area, AL-SIYASAH wishes to raise the idea of establishing a common agricultural market for the countries of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula, not precisely on the pattern of the European Common Market but one that fits our economic circumstances. The European Common Market has put on secure bases the marketing and trade of agricultural commodities among the countries of the area despite their different political systems and the distances between them. We can cite as an example, Greece's production of vegetables which reaches the markets of Britain and Germany and vice versa, something which prompts us to ask: Why is there no common agricultural market for the countries of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula?

Distances are no obstacle. While the main crop in the area is vegetables of all types, the problem in all the Gulf countries is the concentration on planting only one specific crop, tomatoes for example, to head the list, with no coordination on planting dates with the various countries of the area. This crop reaches its peak in Kuwait at the same time as in Qatar, the UAE and Oman even though tomatoes could be planted at given times in each country so they would not reach their peak at the same time in each country.

Crop Diversification

From another angle, there is a pressing need for diversification of crops among the countries of the area. For example, we notice that in Kuwait the production of cucumbers, zucchinis and eggplant does not exceed 150 tons a year while annual local consumption amounts to 11,000 tons of cucumbers, 5,000

tons of zucchini and 8,000 tons of eggplant. Consequently, the Kuwaiti market is forced to import these quantities because they are not produced locally all the while attention is given to planting only tomatoes. What is the result?

From late March to early April the local market is flooded with more than it needs since from 120-150 tons a day are sent to al-Shibrah while the market needs no more than 60-70 tons. This produces a severe drop in prices and, consequently, harsh losses for the growers.

If there were a diversification in crops and in planting approaches, the countries of the area could trade surplus produce among themselves for more than 6 months of the year, particularly since for Saudi Arabia to come within the framework of this market would support this policy and reduce the dependence of the countries of the area on importation.

#### Potential of Some Countries of the Area

With regard to the available agricultural potential of some countries of the area, we find the mountainous areas of Oman in addition to the Dhofar area which enjoys a moderate, tropical climate during the summer months. Were it exploited properly, it could provide the Gulf countries with all their needs for vegetables, in addition to mangoes, coconuts and bananas. Among agricultural areas, we also find the coast of Oman. In the UAE, we find the al-Fujayrah coast filled with mango forests. These forests are in need of a special type of care which would make them into a major source of mangoes and also citrus fruits, something that would certainly result over the long term in reduced importation of these varieties.

#### Improving Production

Were methods of improving production appropriate to the climatic conditions of each country pursued, particularly the method using plastic covers, as well as using special techniques in combatting [disease] and irrigation through specialized companies, there could certainly be an increase in the production capacity of a hectare of land to more than 50 tons for tomatoes and 75-100 tons for cucumbers. Solar energy could be used to cool the plastic greenhouses during the long summer months.

#### Kuwait's Needs for Vegetables in 1985

If we take a look at Kuwait's consumption of vegetables in 1981, we find that it was about 230 thousand tons, including potatoes while the average for canned and frozen vegetables was about 25,000 tons. In other words, Kuwait's total consumption of vegetables of various types was about 255,000 tons. Projections indicate that in 1985 this figure will reach about 373,000 tons of fresh vegetables and potatoes and 51,000 tons of canned and frozen vegetables, that is, 424,000 tons, given a projected increase in population from 1,300,000 persons this year to 1,800,000 in 1985.

## The Countries Exporting to the Area Might Be Insufficient for Their Needs in the Future

While Kuwait is trying to meet its needs for vegetables from Jordan and Lebanon primarily at the present time, the possibilities of the future indicate that it will be necessary to rely on local production after it is improved under the aegis of a Gulf-wide unified agricultural policy along the lines we raised earlier. That can be achieved only by improving production and marketing conditions, along with the necessity of using special techniques in production based on modern research and methods.

The countries which are currently producing and upon which the area markets are basically dependent are developing countries and will face the same problem of increasing population, particularly if we recognize that development of agricultural resources there is not nearly keeping pace with the average population growth.

8389

CSO: 4404/286

DIRECTOR OF CID DISCUSSES CRIME, SECURITY

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 10 Feb 82 p 3

[Article by Sayyid 'Uthman: "We Are Constantly Racing to Keep Pace With the Increase of Crime; Security Men Do Not Rest Until Bringing the Criminal to Justice"]

[Text] Lt Col Fahd al-Yasin, director of the CID for the capital district, stated: "The security apparatus is constantly improving its methods so as to keep pace with the development in criminals' methods and so as to be able to prevent incidents before they occur." He said: "Some recent cases that have been solved indicate that the culprits are trying to improve their methods but that will not help them a bit because the security men are lying in wait for them. In this regard we would like to reaffirm to the citizenry that thanks to their cooperation and our constant vigilance, the blessing of security and tranquility will continue to be the sign of our society."

Lt Col Fahd al-Yasin indicated that the crime rate is continuing to drop and that the security people are aware of their duty to pursue and arrest criminals. He said that given the population mix and the large number of immigrants, certain lawbreakers will appear occasionally but that "our duty is not to go easy on anyone and to be always vigilant."

With regard to the allegations by some defendants that their confessions during the investigations were made under duress, Lt Col Fahd al-Yasin stated:

"I would like to reemphasize that our job is centered only around collecting evidence and investigating culprits. Some cases demand a great deal of time and effort from us. We, however, never resort to coercion. The only person to accuse us is the criminal who must be brought to justice to pay the penalty for what he has done. We talk with this person and confront him with information and evidence so that he can realize that his behavior has been found out."

He added: "There is one other thing I would like to clarify. The security man who is following up a case to arrest a criminal cannot feel relaxed or calm until after he clears up the obscurity of the case, untangles all its threads and brings the criminal to justice to pay his penalty. So, you see we are working night and day to cope with crime and expose anything that might appear to be detrimental to security and deal with it with the necessary approach."

Lt Col Fahd al-Yasin, director of capital CID, set forth an illustration of the necessary approach for cooperation between the security man and the citizenry, saying:

"We use a specific approach in cooperation with the people as if to resolve any problems they encounter and express our friendly feelings toward them so as to ensure that they feel that our basic task is to be vigilant in their interest and to protect the society's security. On this basis, a citizen will be predisposed to cooperate with us and to come forward at once when he has any information about an incident he has witnessed or followed up and to give us this information and set forth the details to us."

With regard to the interest on the part of officials in the Ministry of Interior regarding the necessity of improving the performance level of security men and encouraging them to put forth the maximum effort, Lt Col Fahd al-Yasin said:

"This interest expressed by officials in the Ministry of Interior, with the minister, the undersecretary and the governor in the forefront, is a great incentive to us to take a dedicated approach to the job since they offer us guidance and direction and take the initiative in overcoming all difficulties that might interfere with our work. This is a great help and "receives a positive response from us."

On the subject of a rundown of crimes in the capital district which encompasses many financial, commercial and economic establishments, Lt Col Fahd al-Yasin said that one must not take the view that there is a specific type of crime that occurs within the district. However, it was worth mentioning some cases of robbery and passing bad checks represented the highest percentage of all the various types. He said that we have recently been able to solve a number of cases of purse snatching and robberies.

With regard to cases of drug addiction and drug pushing, the director of capital CID said: "One cannot be soft with persons who circulate these poisons or who are addicts of them because of their detrimental effect on society and because they constitute a path toward perversion and the commission of other crimes."

8389

CSO: 4404/286



NASIRISTS SEEK MORE POWER

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1316, 22 Jan 82 p 6

[Article: "New Political and Military Power in Beirut"]

[Text] The unionist step, carried out last week under the supervision of Ibrahim Qulaylat, head of the al-Murabitun leadership council, and which was represented by the establishment of a joint leadership council for the Nasirist forces in Lebanon, was considered tantamount to the first practical implementation of the plan to unify the effective forces in West Beirut.

Mr Qulaylat, who is currently overseeing the basic arrangements for this unifying step, holds that this decision is a fundamental response to attempts to stir up sectarian sensitivities among the factions of one religion, and that consequently, it is an important step toward constructing Lebanon on sound national foundations and principles, to form an effective deterrent against partition. With the completion of measures to apply the principles of unifying the leadership of the Nasirist forces, it is expected that that will lead to establishing a major political and military force on the Lebanese scene generally, and in Beirut in particular, during the first half of this year, which will give its leadership heavy political weight with respect to the dialogue, the reconciliation and the presidential elections.

At the same time, Qulayat announced that similar contacts and efforts are being made in the Arab world to unify the Nasirist ranks, the latest being some meetings held in Beirut with the Egyptian Nasirist former minister, Muhammad Fa'iq, regarding increasing the effectiveness of this unified power in Lebanon.

7005

CSO: 4404/236

SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT BY FAYCAL AL KHATIB

Rabat L'OPINION in French 7 Dec 81 pp 1, 4-5

[Text of speech by Faycal Al Khatib, president of the Istiqlalian parliamentary group, before Parliament; date not given]

[Text] Nationbuilding remains the highest priority.

Assure the success of the democratic process, whatever the obstacles.

Train competent personnel to combat the causes of underdevelopment.

The Arab and Palestinian question is the major concern of our foreign policy.

Here is the full text of the speech given by Mr Faycal Al Khatib, president of the Unity and Egalitarianism Group, during the House of Representatives debate on the general policy of the government as enunciated by the Prime Minister.

Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, honorable deputies:

Once again we have turned to a discussion of the government's general policy, as enunciated by the Prime Minister to the House of Representatives.

The Istiqlalian Group, for which I have the honor to speak, and whose opinions and positions on the government's policy I will articulate, takes this opportunity to renew its good wishes and congratulations to Mr Prime Minister and the members of the new government for the confidence which His Majesty the King has placed in them.

We wish all success to the new government in the tasks and responsibilities it is asked to assume, in the unique circumstances currently prevailing.

Meet the Challenge of War, and Struggle Against the Effects of the Drought

The Istiqlalian Group is, by the same token, pleased to note the determination of the government to make all possible efforts to achieve, within the time allotted,

the objectives set forth in the 5-year plan, which denotes the government's firm resolve to meet the challenges resulting from the circumstances inherent to the war imposed on our country in the southern provinces, as well as the repercussions of the international economic crisis, the increase in the oil import bill, and the ill effects of the drought.

We also note with satisfaction the disposition the government has shown--despite all difficulties--to mobilize all human, moral, and material potential in both the public and private sector to achieve these goals.

#### Price Control

With regard to the drought, our group warmly applauds the government's willingness to exercise strict control over prices, to safeguard the purchasing power of Moroccans, to revise the laws on distribution of commodities, and to draw up a new list of food commodities to be sold at fixed prices.

Such measures are a relevant response to the principles of social justice and the demands of the current economic and social situation which results from the drought and its effects.

In this context, the Istiqlalian Group believes it necessary to mobilize all resources and every potential to be able to effectively provide jobs in the rural sector, to orient our nation-building toward development projects and infrastructure and to improve rural life, which will enable our rural citizens to enjoy stability and security.

#### The Question of Our Territorial Integrity

The cause of unity and national territorial integrity has for years been the very highest priority and the primary concern of His Majesty the King and the whole Moroccan people.

After the glorious Green March, which led to the recovery of our southern provinces, those opposed to our territorial unity have all tried to bleed our economic resources by means of bands of armed and trained mercenaries, whom they have launched in cowardly attacks against our country.

They intend in this way to nullify the meaning of the Green March, just as they have tried to create a climate of international pressure on Morocco--by diplomatic and other means--in order to get it to give up its rights.

The facts clearly show that only the policy of firmness and tenacity pursued by His Majesty the King to safeguard Morocco's sovereignty and territorial unity, and the application of that policy with celerity and selfless devotion by the minister of state for foreign affairs, along with the classic valor and heroism ceaselessly shown by our valiant Royal Armed Forces and the active enthusiasm of the masses, have made it possible for our country to gain control of the terrain, establish an administration, and begin the process of bringing development, prosperity, and security to our recovered Saharan provinces.

And while the enemies of our cause continued to fan the flames of artificial tension created by them and their masters in the region, driven on in this venture by their fantastic notions and hegemonistic aims of expansion, our country nevertheless has maintained its composure, demonstrating thereby on more than one occasion for the international community to see that its concern and unflinching resolve is to work for safeguarding the principle of the building of the Arab Maghreb and the preservation of peace and security in Africa.

#### The Nairobi Initiative

As noted in the government's statement, the unanimous international support given to the royal initiative before the Nairobi Summit has brought final victory closer and has made this obvious to the enemies of our territorial integrity. That initiative came at a time when Morocco was more than ever aware of its legitimate rights in the recovered territories, in order to respond to the desire of a number of friendly states who see in the proposed referendum a means of putting an end to the artificial tension created in that region.

The peace process initiated by His Majesty and welcomed by the entire international community with enthusiasm had the initial effect of unmasking the real intentions of the enemies of our territorial integrity.

No doubt, that part of the international community which is still living in illusion and mystification is beginning to realize little by little that our enemies are making every possible effort to hide the truth behind a mass of hollow slogans.

They have taken it upon themselves to criticize the peace process and the holding of the referendum--and in a very self-righteous way--precisely because no one knows better than they what will be the result.

The situation thus requires an urgent program to protect the income of the farmers and stock raisers, as spelled out in the government's statement.

While we support these measures, we also ask the government to make every possible effort and mobilize all potential resources to promote the creation of jobs in the countryside, in order to stem the rural exodus and its repercussions on economic and social development.

In tandem with these measures, it would be appropriate to work on carrying through with the general approach of the government's agricultural policy, in order to assure the farmers an adequate income, protect their right to a legitimate profit, and increase production.

The Istiqlalian Group also believes it is necessary to reduce the gap between modern and traditional agriculture, given the important role that sector plays in the promotion of exports and in the strengthening of our balance-of-payments situation, and this in turn leads to the need to coordinate planning in the agricultural and industrial domains.

With the help of these motivating factors, the economic and social development effort begun in the countryside will make it possible to carry out more projects in

various fields such as employment, education, roads, potable water, housing, and agricultural equipment.

Our subsequent discussion of the finance bill and the proposed agricultural investment code will give the Istiqlalian Group the chance to treat this subject exhaustively.

We should underline, in that connection, that prospecting for water is an imperative necessity if we are to achieve the objectives set forth in the government's statement.

### 3) Modern Industry [numbers as published]

Industrialization, with all it implies in terms of covering the nation's need for manufactured products and export capability, constitutes one of the basic objectives for all developing countries such as our own.

On that subject, the government in its statement expressed its intention to propose legislation to encourage investment in the fields of modern industry and artisanal industry, in order to promote economic activity in the various provinces.

The statement also concedes the necessity of tying economic development to the need to acquire sufficient foreign currency and to facilitate administrative procedures by the creation of a special body attached to the Prime Minister's Department.

In reality, in order to achieve that objective, considering the rate of demographic growth and the necessity of increasing the contribution made to the GNP by the industrial sector, strict and effective controls will have to be imposed on the quality of Moroccan products, in order to guarantee and support their competitiveness in foreign markets.

Also, the Istiqlalian Group notes with satisfaction the encouraging steps to spur economic activity in the provinces, which should create jobs, increase production, and lessen the economic disparities between the regions and the provinces.

We note in that connection the need to create more industrial zones throughout the kingdom, from Rachidia to Oujda, Taza, Tetouan, and Laayoune, and to complete the construction of the Nador steelworks complex and the other major chemical projects.

Finally, the Istiqlalian Group stresses the need to accelerate the building of the infrastructure for the three industrial zones in the various provinces and to permit investors to acquire land in those regions at no cost or at only token cost.

### 4) The Artisanal Sector

The Istiqlalian Group reaffirms its full support of the government on this score. Every effort should be made to support the artisanal sector, which is the



repository of our artistic and architectural patrimony and at the same time contributes its own small share to strengthening our balance of payments.

Nevertheless, it is fitting to recall that the employees in this sector are still suffering both psychologically and materially from their lack of inclusion in the protection of the social security system.

Also, the Istiqlalian Group is calling for the economic rehabilitation of this sector and is giving its employees all the rights that legislation has bestowed on the modern industrial sector.

#### 5) Maritime Fishing

In this domain, we note the government's decision to consider the maritime fishing sector as one of the priority fields of activity, given the importance of exploiting our fishery resources and also the contribution this sector makes to job creation and food security.

The encouragement of investment is called for in the government's statement, as are the creation of 15,000 jobs in 1982 and an increase in production (600,000 tons in 1985).

The government has also promised to encourage domestic fish consumption in order to increase the average amount consumed by each Moroccan; this requires improved equipment and distribution networks at the national level.

The Istiqlalian Group notes with satisfaction, therefore, the measures and directions called for in this field and also urges the government to complete this undertaking by working for the creation of fisherboat-repair facilities in all Moroccan ports and for the construction of new port installations all along the Moroccan coast.

The Istiqlalian Group also believes it necessary to pay special attention to the training of skilled workers--at low, medium, and advanced levels--in this sector, and to develop our resources to an adequate level.

The discussion of the finance bill will soon give our group the opportunity to go over that important sector of the nation's life in detail.

#### 6) Energy

The energy problem is one of our country's major concerns, as it is for many non-oil-producing countries.

This is because hydrocarbon products cost our country about half of its foreign exchange earnings, and above all because of the constant increases in prices and in the value of the dollar.

To deal with this situation, the government announced in its statement that we are presently discussing its determination to redouble financial and technical

support in the field of oil exploration, exploitation of shale oil, and renewable energy.

The government also announced it will submit to the House of Representatives a supplemental program on energy conservation and consumption.

While we fully support these measures, the Istiqlalian Group believes that they should be taken as part of an overall policy with clear and specific objectives, which policy should have the fundamental goal of achieving national independence in the field of energy.

The growing volume of energy consumption entailed by the pursuit of industrial development creates the necessity of intensifying exploration for oil and at the same time working to reduce consumption as much as possible by use of renewable energy and nuclear energy.

The Istiqlalian Group also believes it is necessary to institute strict controls on the utilization of energy in the fields of industry and transport.

With regard to our compatriots in the recovered Sahara who have often expressed in many ways their steadfast Moroccanness, they will soon be given a new opportunity to show to the whole world, clearly and openly, their attachment to the allegiance they pledged to Amir Al Mouminine and the throne, and their pride in being Moroccans--a Moroccanness which no one can dispute.

The Istiqlalian Group applauds the creation of the Special Consultative Council for Saharan Affairs which has been established by His Majesty the King and is responsible to the sovereign. The council will, among other things, be an effective instrument for organizing for the referendum.

We reaffirm our support for the government's efforts to carry out the responsibilities it has to assume in defending our territorial integrity and our existence.

We pay homage, from this august tribune, to our glorious Royal Armed Forces and their supreme commander, His Majesty Hassan II, for their heroic actions and valor in defending Moroccan territory and the nation's existence and in providing for the security of our people. On this occasion, we bow our heads in remembrance of our martyrs.

#### Democracy

Regarding democracy, the government statement confirmed the commitments of the government of His Majesty the King to make all possible efforts, both in its day-to-day conduct of affairs and in its relations with Parliament and the local communities, to strengthen the spirit of dialogue.

The Istiqlalian Group welcomes with satisfaction this new governmental orientation, and considers that the strengthening of the democratic form of government with its juridical, political and social criteria is, aside from the question of territorial integrity, one of the fundamental concerns of the Istiqlal Party.

We observe that the democratic experiment, which began with the promulgation of the Dahir on 30 September 1976 setting up local units of government, requires everyone to work together to ensure that it will succeed and be broadened, whatever obstacles may be met on the road.

#### Give Democracy Its Fullest Meaning

The Istiqlalian Group considers that the real way to consolidate democracy and give it meaning to the people--mobilizing every effort to achieve justice, giving every Moroccan access to education, health care, housing, and employment, allowing women to play their role in society, protecting the family, and facilitating the establishment of an ongoing dialogue between workers and employers--the way, as well the price to be paid, is to establish principles that would guide us in our political and social action, both at the governmental and bureaucratic levels, and to protect the rights and dignity of citizens and the sense of duty.

Consolidation of this approach at the governmental level, and in terms of fundamental juridical pillars of democracy and various statutes prescribing how political and social rights are to be exercised, will lead to the establishment of a new political and social climate permitting the mobilization of mass support that will put an end to the causes of underdevelopment. Even more, we will show the Third World that the Moroccan people are a noble people who deserve all support.

As we approach the elections we want to express the hopes of the Moroccan people that the voting will be a significant step forward for democracy. The Unity and Egalitarianism Group, through its constructive and positive action in Parliament, is supporting the government in its new direction.

#### Part One

##### Financial and Economic Prospects and Directions

On the subject of financial and economic prospects and directions, the government statement says that the policy of the government will follow the same lines as previous plans, and that the government will submit to the House of Representatives, during the current session, several legislative proposals aimed at improving the economic and social situation.

The Istiqlalian Group welcomes with satisfaction these commitments and decisions to encourage investments in the fields of agriculture and modern industry, the artisanal sector, and tourism. These bills should promote economic activity in various regions and put an end to the problems that investors are experiencing.

The Istiqlalian Group notes with satisfaction the government's decision to create a new body attached to the Prime Minister's Office which will be considered the sole contact point for investors and will represent all government agencies. This will enable investors to complete their projects in the best conditions and with the least possible delay.

We are in accord with the government in giving priority to exports and in supporting the needed statutes.

While the overall lines of the government policy express the resolve of the government to correct our economic policy, the Istiqlalian Group nevertheless considers that the fundamental tax reform to be undertaken should rest on a policy which takes into account the realistic prospects for economic development and social justice as well, completely exempting low-income individuals from taxes and providing for equitable tax treatment for all.

The foundations of tax reform, as the Istiqlalian Group sees it, are the promotion of production, the growth of government revenue, and an improvement in the citizens' standard of living.

The Istiqlalian Group also believes it is necessary to direct the objectives of social reform toward encouraging production in every sector, creating jobs, especially in the rural sector, protecting [the purchasing power of] personal income, and thereby encouraging domestic savings that could be used for investment.

The result will be more social justice and regional balance.

The Istiqlalian Group will have the opportunity to express its views on this subject during the debates coming up on the finance bill for 1982 and during the presentation of draft legislation on the tax reform.

## Productive Sector

### 1--The Plan

Concerning the Five-Year Plan adopted by the House of Representatives, the Istiqlalian Group hails the decision, contained in the government statement, to carry out the plan on schedule.

Similarly, we applaud the fact that, for the first time, the provisions of the plan have been tied to the training of workers and skilled personnel, considering that the human factor is the country's greatest wealth and that this is the way to acquire the skills required to combat the causes of underdevelopment, in order thereby to complete our economic and social development.

On that point, we have no need to recall the example of certain countries which lack an abundance of natural resources and which, because they have maximized their human potential, have gone from the agricultural stage to the modern industrial stage--countries such as Japan, Italy, and even England.

However, implementation of the projects contained in the Five-Year Plan requires the government to move quickly to provide for their financing.

### 2--Agriculture

In this domain, the government has promised to submit to the House of Representatives the national charter for agricultural economy which is now being prepared.

Our group has noted with satisfaction the government's determination to pay more attention to the growers' interests and provide them with the best possible living

conditions. We support this policy of the government, and express the hope that it will acquaint the House of Representatives as soon as possible with the nature of the measures it expects to take to follow through on these lines.

Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, honorable deputies,

Our primary concern is the drought, which has been ravaging Morocco for more than a year, the effects of which have been to aggravate underemployment in the rural sector, lower the income of the peasants, and worsen both hidden and open unemployment; we are concerned by the consequences of the drought on our livestock and animal wealth, and by the decline in our agricultural production.

The Social Sectors

Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, honorable representatives,

#### 1) Education: Means and Objectives

With regard to the national education sector, which remains one of the most basic sectors in terms of its impact on the future of the country, our group notes the promise of the new government to follow through on the commitments behind which the whole nation stands in unanimous support, and which are:

--Guaranteeing the right of all school-age children to an education.

--Tying the various levels of education to economic and social development in order to make it a means of creating employment.

--Improving the training of skilled workers in every field where the need is felt, and intensifying vocational training in order to ensure that education and training serve the purpose intended, and do not themselves become another cause of unemployment.

--Tying education to the preservation of Moroccan uniqueness and culture, both in its spiritual and social components, and to the preservation of Moroccan and Islamic humanism, while remaining open to other cultures and humanitarian civilizations.

--Linking education to development and technological progress.

These lines of action all point toward sound training and an education that is appropriate for the productive citizen and useful for his country, his compatriots, himself, and his family--one that is able to contribute to social and economic takeoff and to his country's scientific and technological progress. Every effort to provide sound training and education for the rising generations can only work to the fulfillment of the hopes we have placed in them.

We would also like to emphasize the efforts made by the National Education Ministry to give our educational system a new content and also to Moroccanize its professionals, and in doing so to replace the foreign teachers who continue to



give instruction in various courses of study. Similarly, we note with satisfaction the move to make Arabic the principal language, while at the same time not neglecting the teaching of other living languages.

This should not, however, lead us to forget the importance of private education in diffusing and popularizing knowledge, as well as in lightening the burdens of the state. This also requires corrective measures, and in fact a restructuring of this sector, primarily by giving it juridical status and the material means necessary to its development and the upgrading of its scientific and educational level.

## 2) Culture:

The government statement notes the [government's] determination to popularize culture and to see that all Moroccans can enjoy its benefits.

But culture is one thing, and education is another.

In our view, culture is a right which all citizens share, and therefore it should be accessible to all strata of the populace, for there can be no development without full and overall awareness of the foundations of the national genius.

Consolidation of cultural activities thus facilitates strengthening of the social web and the general development of the country.

It is also necessary to endow the Ministry of Culture with a larger number of skilled personnel and greater resources in order to enable it to carry out fully its mission in the development and promotion of the arts and belles-lettres and in the protection of the cultural patrimony of our civilization.

We hope, therefore, that the budget to be allotted to this ministry in the upcoming fiscal year will reflect the government's determination to achieve these objectives.

## 3) Youth:

With regard to youth, the Istiqlalian Group considers that the interest shown in this sector ties in with the efforts and educational activities devoted to the rising generations, which represent about 60 percent of the total population.

However, our young people are exposed to all sorts of dangers and to the serious threat of delinquency, which our group believes calls for sustained efforts to educate young people and to see that their education is complete not only in the scientific, vocational, and athletic areas but also in the religious and moral domain.

In order to do this, we think it is necessary to continue activities intended to protect youth against the scourges of alcoholism and drug abuse, and to show more interest in spiritual and moral activities, as well as in the educational and substantive aspects of this vital sector.

Along the same lines, we consider that it is indispensable to link education to vocational and technical training as well as to the training of skilled workers, on the one hand, and to physical and artistic education on the other.

The crisis which our country is experiencing does not acquit the government of the responsibility to protect youth and show them the attention they deserve. Our group therefore will support all efforts in this direction.

#### 4) Housing:

The scope of the housing crisis facing the country is not something that affects only Morocco. It is a phenomenon that affects the whole Third World and even some advanced countries. This crisis is due primarily to the imbalance between demographic growth and development in the housing sector, on the one hand, and also to the accelerated pace of the rural exodus caused by neglect of the countryside, underemployment, and the temptations offered by some industrial zones.

Our group notes with satisfaction, however, the government's commitment to carry out the housing projects in the Five-Year Plan. We consider this a vital economic and social sector, because it creates jobs and helps assure Moroccans decent housing and the elimination of slums.

No one is ignorant of the fact that Morocco between now and the year 2000 needs 4 million new housing units, or approximately 200,000 units per year.

Now the primary problems which this sector is experiencing are traceable to the problem of finding lots and to the problems posed by the existing credit system. This requires the creation of a national office for housing lots and the revision of the current system of home mortgages. In any case, our group prefers to postpone discussion of the initiatives mentioned in the government statement relative to housing, real estate, savings, and credit until after it has taken cognizance of the provisions of the finance bill for the upcoming fiscal year. But the government can already count on our support for any initiatives it undertakes to guarantee everyone's right to housing that is in the best possible condition.

#### 5) Justice:

In this field, the government statement indicates that it "proposes to establish strict control and surveillance of the administrative and judicial apparatus, in the context of the constitution's mandate to protect citizens against abuses to which they could be subjected."

Our group thinks that the struggle against abuses can be effective only if the causes that engender them are eliminated. It is true, however, that problems related to revising and increasing the salaries of magistrates and employees in the Department of Justice, improving the financial position of employees in the judicial apparatus and among clerks, and revising and simplifying judicial procedures are among those most urgently in need of resolution.

#### 6) Health:

In this field, the government proposes to provide "balanced and harmonious health coverage in all regions of the kingdom, through fruitful collaboration between the rural and urban areas." To do this, the government urges the private sector to come forth immediately with a contribution to the realization of this objective and to collaborate with the public sector, by mobilizing its own resources.

The government will also pay more attention to mass health education and to support of the preventive role of the public health agencies, in accordance with the maxim "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

It will also make efforts to improve the level of ethical responsibility among personnel in the health sector, so that the patient--the object of these efforts--will be given all the care he needs and his dignity will be respected.

While supporting this commitment, the Istiqlalian Group insists on the need to improve the financial position of health personnel, whether they be doctors, nurses, or administrative agents, and regardless of rank.

We also think that it is indispensable to review certain legislative provisions affecting this sector and to promulgate a statute on public health doctors.

Along the same lines, our group thinks that we must not neglect the private sector, which means establishment of examination fees, hospital charges in private institutions, and the establishment of strict controls to assure that all these provisions are implemented on behalf of the patient.

It would also be appropriate to subject investments in this sector to legislation and to make far-reaching changes in the production and distribution networks for pharmaceutical products, whose price and quality should be rigorously controlled.

#### 7) Social Affairs:

In this area, the government's plan of action is to encourage Moroccan women to assume their rightful role and to protect women and children; it has not indicated to us, however, how it plans to do this or what resources will be committed.

This sector indeed assumes great importance in our eyes, both in terms of the educational, spiritual and moral aspects and in terms of leisure and training. Economic development is dependent on harmonious social progress, which alone is able to protect the citizen from psychological, spiritual, and moral suffering, not to mention material poverty.

Starting from this viewpoint, our group considers that only by protecting children from malnutrition, vagabondage, and inadequate care through legislative, financial, and administrative measures; by protecting the nuclear family against dissolution, debauchery, and libertinage resulting from the importation of foreign customs and models; and by protecting all the rights of the workers, especially with regard to a decent wage and job stability and security, adequate lodging, medical care,

and social security--only in this way can the foundations be laid for a rational social policy and effective government action.

With regard to women, who constitute half of the society and one of the pillars of its development and prosperity, our group does not consider this question from the point of view of what it is now common to dismiss as "women's liberation," though women have always been free in Islam. Rather, we are considering this question solely from the point of view of mobilizing the material and spiritual resources needed to enable the Moroccan woman to play her role in the overall development effort and in the emancipation of society.

Finally, we would like to note too that the protection of the aged is now a question which concerns everyone and should be treated, therefore, as an urgent problem in the social domain. It is thus necessary for the government to give the problems of the elderly and the older generation as a whole all the attention they deserve, and factor that into its overall policy.

#### 8) Administration:

With regard to the bureaucracy and its relationship to the citizenry, the Istiqlali Group can only praise the courage of the Prime Minister and the government over which he presides for the admission he made from his august tribune concerning the existence of abuses and injustices committed by the bureaucratic apparatus, and note the commitment on the part of the executive to inspect and control the administration in order to protect the citizens from abuses by the latter as well as from the judicial apparatus.

These, however, are only general directions, and our group supports them. But we hope that the government will not wait long to inform us of the kinds of measures it plans to take to give substance to its commitments.

We also consider that the carrying out of these commitments and promises will require a far-reaching cleanup and radical reforms of the administrative apparatus, as well as an improvement in its efficiency through a review of the financial and social position of officials, particularly the lowest paid.

It is also appropriate to promulgate on an urgent basis statutes to control the personal wealth of civil servants and government clerks. For there are honest and conscientious civil servants, but there are also those who--even if they be a minority--do not abide by the regulations and laws in force, nor do they take into consideration the rights or property of their public, and who moreover do not seem to want to adapt to the new democratic process or who go so far as to divert public funds and enrich themselves illegally and with impunity and to the detriment of society and the nation. Thus, all necessary measures must be taken, and legal proceedings must be started against these parasites and against anyone who tries to divert public funds or deprive citizens of their rights and freedoms.

The government has our full support in [line missing].



## 9) Foreign Policy:

With regard to foreign policy, we note the attention Morocco pays to Arab issues and, in particular, the Palestinian question, which is quite proper and is perfectly consonant with its membership in the Arab Nation, and therefore our country continues ceaselessly to work to achieve Arab solidarity and unity, at least with regard to fundamental problems, and to make this objective the principal concern of our foreign policy.

In addition, the Palestinian question, with all the effort it demands to reach a unified Arab position on the subject and to reestablish the Palestinian people in the enjoyment of their legitimate rights, among which is the right to create an independent and sovereign state, is one of the major priorities and preoccupations of Moroccan foreign policy. This in turn demands sustained support for the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in its struggle for the recovery of the people's rights to freedom, dignity, and independence, on the basis of respect for the sovereignty, the wishes, and the decisions that the Palestinian people themselves judge most appropriate to resolve their problem.

Moreover, Morocco, which has continued to do everything it can to mobilize and unify all Arab resources in the effort to liberate the occupied Arab territories and to enable an independent Palestinian state to be born on Palestinian territory, is not overly distressed at the numerous obstacles which might arise at one time or another in pursuing this struggle.

Also, and in accordance with its unionistic principles and with its respect for the right of peoples and states to safeguard and defend their national unity and their territorial integrity, Morocco has no choice but to support fraternal Iraq in its legitimate struggle to recover its stolen territories, since political and diplomatic efforts to do so have failed.

With regard to Africa, Morocco can never accept being cut off from that continent. Also, it is her duty to consolidate and promote cooperation and friendly ties with all African peoples and states, regardless of their characteristics or political orientation.

Africa's security, independence, and protection from foreign intervention are, in our view, an integral part of the imperatives of our own country's external security. By virtue of this fact, Morocco should always be ready to meet any foreign attack against the African continent, under whatever ideological or political pretext it may come, and independently of the nature of the regime of the country which is the target. For safeguarding the independence and free will of Africa is, in the opinion of the Istiqlalian Group, a natural extension of Morocco's own independence and free will.

We in the Istiqlal Party are also disturbed by the implications of Spain's membership in NATO, just as we deplore the fact that the adhesion agreement includes the towns of Sebta and Mehlia and the other islets and rock islands still under Spanish administration which Morocco has continued to claim.



Also, we urge the government to take all necessary steps with the countries concerned to make them aware of our concern and our positions.

With regard to the policy of nonalignment followed by our country, the Istiqlal Party reaffirms the fact that our non-alignment with respect to either of the two major blocs flows from the necessity of preserving our own country's independence and freedom of choice in its foreign policy, as well as from the need to attenuate the friction and pressures which these blocs inflict on small nations, and, as we move ahead, to consolidate peace and international security and to promote mutually beneficial cooperation between Morocco, on the one hand, and all foreign nations on the other.

However, the pursuit of a policy of strict nonalignment is in no way in contradiction with the necessity of providing for our own national defense needs by accepting the help of whoever wishes to aid us.

Similarly, if, for reasons of defense and in order to gain wider understanding for our national cause, our foreign policy has been focused basically on Africa and the Arab world in recent years, that fact in no way prevents us from extending and strengthening our diplomatic activity in Latin America, in order to help avert the dangers our absence from the American continent implies.

But the success of our foreign policy remains intimately linked to the strength and cohesion of the internal front, as well as to the maintenance of the mutually beneficial relations between the people and His Majesty the King in the face of the challenges we face--just as it remains linked to the superiority of our Royal Armed Forces over aggressors, whoever they may be and wherever they may come from.

Also, major victories have been won in this domain, and the Istiqlal Group cannot allow this occasion to pass without bowing before the memory of our martyrs who have fallen on the field of honor for the defense of the fatherland, the continuance of the state, and the security of its people, and it must also pay homage to the Royal Armed Forces and their supreme commander, His Majesty King Hassan II, for their courage, their fighting spirit, and their self-sacrificing spirit in defending our country's security and territorial integrity, and for the brilliant victories they continue to win.

Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, honorable deputies,

We have tried to be concise in this presentation, just as we have tried as much as possible only to discuss the broad lines of the government statement, as seen from the doctrinal as well as the political and social point of view of the Istiqlal Party, while fully taking into account the delicate economic situation currently facing our country. That situation necessitates more than ever the general and militant mobilization of all the forces and energies of the country--including the people themselves, the government, and the bureaucracy--in order to resolve the problems in the current situation.

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NEW DEVELOPMENT GROUP TO HELP SMALL, MEDIUM BUSINESSES

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[Interview with Abdelkader Benslimane, president of the National Economic Development Bank [BNDE], by Abdellatif Bennis; date and place not given]

[Text] Making small and medium-size businesses the driving force and spearhead of Moroccan economic expansion and social development is more than an abiding interest of Abdelkader Benslimane, president of the BNDE: it is a passion, perhaps even the passion, of his life.

A businessman, Mr Benslimane has come to the conclusion that many of his compatriots have worthwhile ideas but not much money to do anything with them: giving them the means and helping them along serve to build new units which will bring the country prosperity. Strengthening industry, widening its field of action, creating entrepreneurs--all this is the result of calculated effort.

Mr Benslimane is also a man who cares. Who could deny the ripple effects of a flourishing PME [small and medium-size businesses] sector on the life of society?

However small it may be, a new business creates new jobs, brings a new ray of sunlight into many households, and supplants poverty with well-being.

There have been tremendous successes since the BNDE launched its PME operation, which is a very effective development tool. And with the latest stage--the creation of the "PME Promotion and Assistance Company"--the BNDE and its president have shown their determination to give PME's the place they should have in our national economy.

It was on this very subject that we questioned Mr Abdelkader Benslimane. Here is the record of that interview:

[Question] Would you be so kind, Mr President, on this occasion of the creation of the PME Promotion and Assistance Company, as to summarize for us the history of BNDE's efforts to promote PME's?

[Answer] The establishment of the PME Promotion and Assistance Company was no fluke. Quite the opposite: it is the end result of a lengthy program developed by the BNDE to promote and support the growth of small and medium-size business in our country.

In that regard, it should be remembered that the BNDE, conscious of the socio-economic role that PME's play around the world, developed a procedure in 1972 to facilitate access by small businessmen to credit and to speed up consideration of their applications.

Subsequently, and still in the same framework, the BNDE began negotiations with the World Bank on behalf of PME's. The results of those negotiations were formalized by the signing in June 1977 of an initial pilot line of credit of \$5 million, which was earmarked entirely for the financing of PMI [small and medium-size industries] projects, and \$3 million of which was retroceded to the BCP [Banque Commerciale de Paris].

Utilization of this line made it possible for the PMI's to obtain credit on more advantageous terms. For example, the amount that could be financed was raised to 80 percent of the planned investment (except for land).

Utilization of the pilot line yielded very encouraging results. Established in 1978, it was totally used up within 9 months.

A second and larger line of credit, \$25 million, entirely earmarked for small and medium-size industries, was opened in February 1980 by an agreement that our institution signed with the World Bank.

Getting that line of credit was a milestone in the history of the growth of PME's in our country, since it involved the participation of the entire banking system.

In parallel fashion, orientation units to assist PMI's were set up by the Ministry of Industry, the Office of Industrial Development, the BNDE, and the Primary Banks.

The success achieved through this second line of \$25 million was as great as that obtained from the pilot line of \$5 million. While it was not scheduled to be renewed until June or July 1981, it was totally exhausted by the end of 1980.

The results were more than encouraging. Loans given out from this line amounted to 125 million dirhams, and total investments made were 188 million. This in turn led to the creation or saving of 9,344 jobs, and the average cost per job was no more than 20,120 dirhams.

As you can see, the BNDE, bringing the entire banking system into the picture, continues to make ever-increasing efforts to encourage PME's.

[Question] Why was the PME Promotion and Assistance Company established?

[Answer] Creation of the PME Promotion and Assistance Company marks a new stage in our institution's continuous efforts to promote and expand this sector of business and industry in our country.

The new company's activities will undoubtedly contribute to accelerating this development and to consolidating the industrial network of PME's already in place.

The PME Promotion and Assistance Company is designed, in effect, to provide all necessary assistance to small and medium businessmen who would like to set up a business, to conceive and identify projects. They will benefit from its know-how and ability to evaluate their projects from a technical, economic, and financial point of view.

Better still, the company will cooperate with the entrepreneurs in seeing that all administrative formalities are completed, and in helping prepare credit applications to be submitted to banking institutions or to the BNDE itself.

The company then is also empowered to buy an interest in the projects if this is necessary to meet requirements, thereby ensuring access to the rest of the capital needed.

In principle, such acquired interests will be only temporary and will be sold back, once the enterprise established is on its feet, to existing shareholders or to other individuals desiring to take the place of the PME Promotion and Assistance Company.

In its capacity as shareholder, the company will make available to the enterprise its know-how and contacts--to different degrees, depending on its share in the project--to help provide good management and assist it in finding markets, if this is necessary.

Thus, as you see, the PME Promotion and Assistance Company is to be involved in many different ways in assisting small and medium-size businesses, and it will certainly contribute to better coordination with the banking institutions and other organizations involved in development of the PME sector.

In addition, its actions will contribute to fulfilling the objectives of the 1981-1985 Five-Year Plan, which lists promotion of PME's as one of its priorities.

[Question] How do you explain the presence of the commercial banks and the ODI [Office of Industrial Development] among the shareholders in the new company's assets?

[Answer] The presence of the ODI and the major banks in the company's capital structure stems from the participation of those institutions in the effort to promote and expand the PME sector.

As I have already mentioned, the commercial banks, the BCP in the first instance and then the others as well, made use of both World Bank credit lines, the \$5

million and the \$25 million, and have been providing financing to the PME's all along.

A few significant statistics will illustrate this.

In 1979, the BCP was the beneficiary of the retrocession of \$3 million out of the \$5 million pilot line from the World Bank.

The loan agreements that came out of that installment from the Bank in 1979 involved 27 proposals and amounted to 10 million dirhams that contributed to investments on the order of 23.4 million dirhams.

The participation of the banking system in the distribution of the \$25 million credit line was on a larger scale, since out of 189 proposals investigated by our institution in 1980, 177 came through the major banks.

These 189 transactions required the mobilizing of nearly 100 million dirhams of loan agreements and 25 million dirhams in medium-term rediscountable credit, which contributed to investments totaling nearly 188 million dirhams.

Promotion and assistance units were set up at the BNDE, in the Ministry of Industry, and in the ODI, as well as in many of the major banks.

So the involvement of the ODI and the banking system in the capitalization of the PME Promotion and Assistance Company is justified on a number of counts, and will certainly facilitate coordination of the efforts of these various institutions to promote and expand small and medium-size industry and business in our country.

It is important to note that all these institutions are represented on the board of directors of the company, which insisted that the Bank of Morocco also be represented on it.

[Question] Will the procedures which have been followed up to now in the financing of PME's be changed? What is this procedure?

[Answer] The procedures now in force at the Bank seem sufficiently flexible and well adapted to the financing of PME's.

The Simplified and Accelerated Procedure (PSA), as well as the procedure for financing PMI projects, were designed to provide maximum accommodation to small and medium entrepreneurs.

In terms of preparing documentation for credit requests, a simple questionnaire, establishing the basis for technical, economic and financial evaluation of the project, is submitted to the investors concerned.

While this preparation is under way, qualified personnel are made available to the entrepreneurs, either at the Bank's headquarters or at the BNDE's Casablanca office, or in the near future at the BNDE office at Agadir and perhaps even at the major banks, to provide them any explanations or advice needed.



The loan application documents are taken under study as soon as they are turned over to the BNDE by the entrepreneur or his bank (PSA).

A technical loan committee meets every 2 weeks to decide on the customer's request, and he is informed of the decision immediately after the meeting.

Thus, as you can see, the PSA procedure, in which the criteria for eligibility are based on the turnover and the total assets, and the PMI procedure are sufficiently flexible and responsive. In my opinion, there is no need to alter them.

All the same, the PME Promotion and Assistance Company intends to play a useful and effective role in the study and preparation of loan applications, by working alongside the entrepreneurs, where necessary, to prepare the study, providing them with the benefits of its technical rigor and know-how. As a result, both the preparation of the credit applications and their review by the banks and the BNDE will proceed more quickly and smoothly.

[Question] The BNDE seems very concerned to promote the PME's. What is the philosophy behind this?

[Answer] Moroccan PME's numerically account for just a little over one-third (37 percent) of the country's industrial enterprises, and employ only 17 percent of its manpower. The added value which this sector provides is not more than 10 percent of the nationwide industrial total, and its share of the GNP is only 1.2 percent. Its involvement in the country's external trade is insignificant, except in textile manufacture. The same is true with respect to tax revenues, where it accounts for only 0.8 percent of government revenue.

This situation has led officials to pay special attention to small and medium-size businesses, which are now perceived as an effective means of contributing to our economic and social expansion. Several reasons argue in favor of developing PME's:

--They make it possible to create jobs with smaller investment per employee.

--New PME's are a means of diversifying industrial activity oriented toward import substitution.

Also, the PME sector appears to dovetail harmoniously with the big industry sector: its complementary role can be seen in the possibility of small-scale production that would not be profitable for big firms. It is also shown in jobber work or subcontracting. Small businesses are also well suited to the manufacture of heavy products, where transportation costs limit the market range to a small region (construction materials, for example).

Thus, we may say that small and medium-size businesses contribute to the rationalizing of industrial production and help reduce costs, making it possible to keep prices down at the local level and to improve the competitive position of the economy as a whole with regard to foreign markets.

--The social dimension of small industry is also far from being insignificant: by permitting businessmen, starting with small assets, to increase their income, the PMI sector contributes to increased social mobility and improvement in the standard of living.

--Establishing them in the regions improves the living conditions of the people and strengthens the existing links between agriculture and industry.

--It is also a partial solution to the problem of stabilizing manpower in the rural sector, effecting a brake on the rural exodus, which never stops growing.

--The promotion of PME's also serves to mobilize individual savings and to channel them toward industrial projects that can enhance the country's economic development.

--Similarly, the creation of small industrial projects can contribute to reintegrating our workers from abroad by giving them a chance to put to use in their own country the experience and technical training acquired abroad.

[Question] What results has the BNDE obtained to date in PMI financing?

[Answer] The results obtained in the context of the new PMI assistance program seem to us to be very encouraging, and they spur us to redouble our assistance efforts on behalf of this sector of private enterprise.

Loans approved since this experiment was launched in July 1978 totaled 258,712,000 dirhams by the end of September 1981. Of that amount, 199,686,000 dirhams were refinancable on foreign credit lines, and 59,026,000 dirhams in the form of MTR [expansion unknown] credits. This has made possible PMI investments amounting to 392,089,000 dirhams overall.

Some 337 projects in the most diverse kinds of industrial activity--especially the clothing and leather industries, the chemical industry, and the food industry--have benefited from these loans.

The results in terms of job creation are even more encouraging.

Some 16,000 jobs are probably going to be created by these investments, at an average cost per employee of about 26,000 dirhams.

These are only a few of the quantifiable results we have had from this promotion activity.

The diversification of the industrial complex which has resulted from this, combined with the growth in our exports of manufactured products, the development of private initiative in investment, improvement in the allocation of credits to the various regions of the country--all these are positive developments which are in harmony with the government's high-priority objectives.

[Question] How do you explain the obstructionism of the international financial bodies which are helping to finance PMI's?

[Answer] In the case of Morocco, I do not think it is fair to speak of obstructionism on the part of the international bodies in the financing of PMI's. Quite to the contrary, the BNDE continues to work tirelessly to obtain lines of credit for that sector. The first pilot line of \$5 million in 1977 required laborious negotiations which we initiated--with the World Bank. It is the same with the \$25 million line, but those negotiations were somewhat facilitated by the success achieved with the first line. The still greater success achieved with the \$25 million line and the fact that the 1981-1985 Five-Year Plan made the promotion and development of PME's a priority objective, encouraged us to redouble our efforts to obtain the final line of \$70 million earmarked for the financing of PMI's in our country. These resources still exist, despite other inadequacies, and the BNDE continues to work with its international contacts to obtain other resources. For example, the following credit lines, negotiated with other international bodies, are anticipated:

--15 million units of account signed with the BEI [European Investment Bank] for 93.75 million dirhams.

--\$15 million with OPEC, or 81 million dirhams.

--2 million Kuwaiti dirhams, or 38 million dirhams.

--8 million units of account, presently under negotiation with the ADB [African Development Bank], equal to 50 million dirhams.

That aside, the international financial institutions are in fact happy to support the development of PME's in developing countries, for the following reasons:

--They resorb unemployment by the creation of jobs at a relatively low investment cost.

--They lead to social advancement, encouraging the growth of a middle class.

--PME's have a constructive effect on the nation's income distribution.

--PME's complement the role played by big industry (manufactures of semifinished products or small-scale production of finished products).

--They play another economic role from the point of view of production for import substitution, subcontracting, and exports in general.

And this does not even include the opportunity that PME's offer to our country: to resettle our workers [who are] abroad, to stabilize the economy, and to counter the rural exodus, whose injurious effects are quite familiar to everyone.

9516

CSO: 4519/81

## FUNDAMENTALIST UPSURGE NOTED

PM251435 Paris LE MONDE in French 25 Feb 82 p 5

[Dispatch by Roland Delcour: "Fundamentalist Demonstrations Are Multiplying"]

[Text] Rabat--In the absence of any organized political opposition--the Socialist Union of Popular Force is virtually paralyzed, its leaders are still relegated to the city of Missour 400 km from Rabat, and its press is banned--will a veritable upsurge of fundamentalism be witnessed in Morocco? Will this movement become the only way for the poverty-stricken Moroccan masses and the social strata crushed by price increases to express their dissatisfaction? A series of quite unusual, and indeed worrying, demonstrations has been noted since the beginning of the year, from Tangiers in the far north to Souss in the far south, where clashes have occurred at the gates of mosques.

In Tangiers a preacher greatly esteemed by the public because he was not content to read out the sermon prepared by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs but tackled ticklish topics, poverty and social issues suddenly disappeared in January. Suspecting that he had been arrested, a delegation of the faithful went to see the governor and was sent away. Following this snub, between 200 and 300 people spontaneously took to the streets, setting fire here to a store kept by a Jew and attacking there bars or cafes serving alcohol to Europeans. Most of the demonstrators were questioned and at least a dozen were tried Thursday, 18 February.

The authorities regarded this demonstration as all the more inopportune since Tangiers was being visited by a detachment of the U.S. Sixth Fleet comprising two nuclear aircraft carriers--the Nimitz and the Eisenhower--which were visited by Crown Prince Si Mohamed and his brother Rachid.

However, the demonstration in Tangiers is only one sign among others. In Casablanca cassettes, sold for under 10 dirhams, by the Egyptian Fundamentalist Preacher Kishk, whose tone is extremely violent, are circulating in the shantytowns. Several hundreds of his sermons (one of the latest cassettes apparently bore the number 408) have reportedly been recorded and are reaching Morocco, where they are meeting with remarkable success, via Amsterdam.

A blossoming of small fundamentalist groups bearing names drawn from the history of Islam or from the holy places, such as Medina and Mecca, is also being witnessed

in Casablanca. They are meeting increasingly in apartments or ordinary meeting rooms, especially in Casablanca, since the mosques and the preachers are controlled by the ulemas, who receive their instructions from the king--the commander of the faithful--and from the Ministry of Islamic Affairs.

In Rabat the fundamentalists are reportedly recruiting especially among Arabic speakers and not among French-speaking students, who are highly politicized and very leftwing oriented, particularly since the USFP representatives left the Politburo of the National Union of Moroccan Students--the large student organization--last summer. Attracted by the very fact of their culture and the return to the sources of the Koran, the Arabic speakers--in particular, the law students--are opposed to the Westernization or Frenchification, which they deem excessive, of Moroccan customs and society, and wear beards and Islamic dress. So since the beginning of the year, ministry circulars have asked teachers to report to it students and pupils sporting these hallmarks.

CSO: 4519/132



PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

OPPOSITION INDICATES POWER STRUGGLE CONTINUES

Cairo AL-WAHDAH in Arabic No 18, 15 Feb 82 p 11

[Article: "Reports From Inside South Yemen, Internal Struggle Continues Between the Factions of the Ruling Authorities in South Yemen, AL-THAWRI Calls for an End to Corruption and Bribery, Will the Struggle Result in a National Consensus To Benefit Yemeni Interests?"]

[Text] The process of struggle between the ruling elements in South Yemen is continuing to take various forms. While the struggle had initially been between 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 'Ali 'Antar it has now widened to include other fronts:

1. A struggle between 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, 'Ali 'Antar, and Salih Muslih.
2. A struggle between 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il's faction.
3. A struggle between the communist factions represented by the democratic popular union's "Badhib" faction and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The communists are aligned with 'Ali 'Antar.

With respect to the struggle between 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il's faction and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has been able to either stop, destroy, halt, or exile 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il's faction. Hence 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Wali was suspended because of a number of charges the most important of which was the discovery of a document in his position revealing his activities in support of the return and regrouping of the elements of 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il's faction in an effort to bring 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il back to power. 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Wali was also suspended because of a sexual scandal and alleged illegal transfer of hard currency outside of the country. Also banished was 'Abduh 'Ali 'Abd-al-Rahman Al-Shawwafi, former deputy foreign minister and an organizer for Sultan Ahmad 'Umar al-'Absi, secretary general of the National Democratic Front which is involved in sabotage activities against the north and south. He [Al-Shawwafi] was appointed as an ambassador to one of the Arab countries. Muhammad 'Abduh Shatfah, former ambassador to Algeria, and Mahmud 'Abdallah ('Ushaysh), the former minister, were exiled. Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah "Muhsin," director of the revolutionary security apparatus, was removed from his position and appointed as ambassador to the Hungarian People's Republic.

In that fashion 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was able to effectively control 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il's faction before its influence spread within the country, something which would have led to his defeat.

We can conclude, therefore, that the internal struggle has increased even on the ideological level and it is clear now that there is opposition to what is happening in the way of social, economic, and cultural changes.

The newspaper AL-THAWRI, the voice of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Communist Party, has called in its issue of 9 January for what it called "battling the passive behavior and the positions of some against work." AL-THAWRI also pointed to the persistent attempts to demoralize the masses and the labor force in order to propagate sick materialist values. It also attacked the negative work habits and lack of productivity which are evident in some groups and which, if left unchallenged, could lead to further indifference on the part of workers, and could reinforce passive behavior with respect to work. It could also lead to irresponsibility towards public property and production equipment. Such attempts also foster embezzlement, stealing, and bribery practices. AL-THAWRI also said that "the appearance of such behavior requires a firm and a responsible stand on the part of our party members in order to combat and wipe out such behavior." The newspaper also called for "the implementation of the revolutionary government and the Central Committee's decisions regarding the appointment of the appropriate individual to the appropriate job and to further continue the process of following up and accounting for all decisions. Furthermore, we should combat the lack of decision making and laxity on the part of the negligent, saboteurs, and those who disregard the state's economic plan."

It is apparent to us through what was mentioned in the newspaper AL-THAWRI that the struggle has taken on new dimensions some of which are political, some economic, some cultural, and some social. Hence if that proves anything it proves that the process of struggle has widened and that the issues of political and economic policies within the Yemeni Socialist Party has begun to take on the form of squabbling, which is a result of the daily experiences and hardships. It is also apparent that the internal incidents and differences which have been brewing internally came about as a result of the cooperation among Badhib, Anis Hasan Yahya, 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, and 'Ali 'Antar, all as a group against 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

But...will the struggle continue until the interaction results in a national consensus which would benefit the Yemeni people, or will such a struggle continue only to benefit the authorities and the authorities only. It appears that the latter is the most likely outcome even though some of the former observers see the result of the interactions as taking on another form altogether, especially in the near future. In that respect 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has started to convey messages in an effort to communicate with the South Yemeni people on the outside in a wide ranging and heavy handed effort to convince them to personally return back to the south. Such attempts, as our information seems to suggest, were decided upon by elements of the former National Front, which included elements of the former popular organizations and liberation fronts.

All of these communication efforts are taking place on individual and personal levels. There has not been any attempt to approach the national forces within Yemeni and Arab circles who are in opposition to the authorities. That means that the authorities don't want to reach an understanding with such forces. On the contrary, the authorities will continue in their policies of opposing such forces a fact which in turn means that the opposition forces will continue their efforts against the authorities. That will take various forms which could possibly have an impact internally in the coming phases.

CSO: 4404/322

BRIEFS

JAPANESE BONDS ACQUIRED--It has been confirmed in the past few weeks that Saudi Arabia has purchased more bonds from the Japanese treasury. The estimated cost of the latest acquisition is 20 million yen (\$89 million). Saudi Arabia had previously purchased, back in September, bonds from the Japanese treasury totaling 20 million yen which was followed by a similar purchase this past October. The economic editor of AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI said that acquisition of such bonds is in effect like a Saudi loan to the Japanese treasury. Furthermore, it represents a direct monetary investment in the Japanese market the return on which is guaranteed. On a different matter it was reiterated that Saudi Arabia will grant a loan to West Germany. The frequency of such reports have led to an increase in the value of bonds on the Frankfurt stock exchange. [Text] [Paris AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic No 259, 29 Jan 82 p 57]

CSO: 4404/321

SOVIET MILITARY SUPPORT TO SYRIA

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1316, 22 Jan 82 p 7

[Article: "Biqa' Missiles and the Syrian-Soviet Pact"]

[Text] It is likely that President Hafiz al-Asad will visit the Soviet Union next month, as a result of the recent visit to Moscow by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. At the time of those talks, a joint communique was published, stating that "the two sides have reached a common view regarding the necessity to confront the dangerous developments" in the Middle East. Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and Chief of Staff Nikolai Ugharkov took part in those talks representing the Soviet side.

Observers say that Damascus in its contacts with Moscow, in the aftermath of Israel's Golan annexation and the talk about an impending Israeli attack, is trying to establish a "strategic balance" with Israel, beginning with the signing of the pact with the Soviet Union in October 1980, and to balance the "strategic cooperation" agreement concluded between the United States and Israel last year. They say that, in this regard, Damascus is trying to have the Syrian-Soviet pact apply to its forces in Lebanon.

Observers think it unlikely that Moscow will be enthusiastic about raising the level of its cooperation to this degree, since that might expose it to a direct confrontation with Israel and with the United States.

It is well known that the Soviet ambassador in Lebanon had previously told President Ilyas Sarkis, following the signing of the Syrian-Soviet pact, that it did not include protecting Syrian forces in Lebanon.

Some observers say that extending this protection to Lebanon might subject the Palestinian and Syrian forces to a sudden Israeli attack, while others say that such an expansion of protection might put Lebanon under the Soviet umbrella without a pact being signed. At that point, Israel might be compelled to launch a surprise attack before this is accomplished.

7005

CSO: 4404/236



## SUDAN

### BRIEFS

GULF WAR SUMMIT SUPPORTED--The foreign minister has issued a statement in which he stressed Sudan's eagerness and support for an Arab summit to determine the appropriate ways and means for finally ending the Iraq-Iran war in order to preserve the souls and energies of Muslims. [Text] [EA251706 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 Feb 82]

NUMAYRI ON AFRICAN SOLIDARITY--Khartoum, 27 Feb (SUNA)--President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has stressed Sudan's continued support for all the African liberation movements and its firm and resolute stand alongside these movements in their just struggles. In a speech today at a ceremony to receive the credentials of (Winosor Kaya Lakonji Ankواني) as Zambia's ambassador extraordinaire and plenipotentiary to Sudan, President Numayri said that the viewpoints of the two countries are identical on the Palestinian cause and the Middle East issue, which shows that the causes of freedom are indivisible. Zambia, he said, joins hands with Sudan in the efforts to bridge the gaps and unify Arab ranks in order to confront Israel's intransigence and arrogance. In his speech the Zambian ambassador stressed the strong cooperation between his country and Sudan and said that he would exert his efforts to promote this cooperation in all fields. [Text] [JN271550 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 27 Feb 82]

MESSAGE FROM ETHIOPIAN PRESIDENT--Khartoum, 2 Mar (SUNA)--President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri this morning received Ethiopian Ambassador in Khartoum Yilma Tadesse, who handed him a written message from Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam, dealing with bilateral relations and means to consolidate and develop them. The meeting was attended by Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, vice president and head of the state security organ, and Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, minister of foreign affairs. [Text] [JN021216 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 2 Mar 82]

SAUDI OIL--SUNA has learned that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will provide Sudan with sufficient petroleum products to meet Sudan's needs for 3 months. News reaching SUNA from Jidda says that work has already begun on dispatching these products to Sudan. A responsible source stated that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will not receive any money from these quantities which it regarded as a grant for assisting Sudan within the framework of the developing relations between the two countries. [Text] [EA120314 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 11 Feb 82]

CSO: 4504/207

AGRICULTURE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH AUSTRIA

Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 5 Feb 82 p 2

[Article: "Agriculture Protocol Signed Between the UAE and Austria; Facilities for Austrian Companies Specializing in Agriculture and Fishing"]

[Text] The UAE and Austria yesterday signed a protocol for cooperation in the agricultural field.

The protocol was signed by Sa'id al-Raqbani, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, for the UAE and for Austria by Gunter Haiden, Austrian Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, who is currently visiting the country. In accordance with the agreement the Austrian government will provide agricultural technical expertise to the UAE in line with its requirements and at the request of the appropriate quarters in the government.

The two contracting sides also pledge to exchange scientific and technical information and bulletins and publications on agricultural matters and to encourage trade in agricultural commodities and foodstuffs.

The protocol stipulates that a joint agricultural committee will be formed under the chairmanship of the ministers of agriculture of the two countries or their representatives. This committee will meet twice a year, alternating between Abu Dhabi and Vienna and will handle setting up the programs and initiating the studies necessary for cooperation in the field of agriculture. The programs and studies are to be within the capability of governmental institutions or companies of the private sector and their establishments within the framework of laws and regulations in force in the two countries. The committee will resolve any difficulties that might arise in connection with application of the articles of this protocol.

Agreement was also reached for the Republic of Austria to send a team of experts in the fields of modern irrigation systems, hothouse agriculture and its production requirements and animal production to the UAE in the near future to make a survey to determine the fields in which the Austrian government can provide suitable solutions to some of the problems facing agriculture in the UAE.

In conformity with this protocol, agreement was reached that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries would grant facilities to Austrian companies

specializing in the field of agriculture which wish to operate in the UAE. It will register these companies and extend an invitation to them to participate in bids extended by the ministry after these companies forward the necessary papers documenting their activities with the understanding that they will have operated under conditions comparable to those in the UAE.

An appendix of the protocol stated that the Austrian delegation expressed a desire to establish an integrated model project that would employ modern Austrian technology on a broad scale. The UAE delegation welcomed this proposal and urged that a team of Austrian experts visit the UAE, select an appropriate site for the project and prepare complete documentation on the proposal for submission to the next meeting of the joint committee.

The two sides agreed that the protocol should apply to everything that is not incompatible with agreements signed by either of the two sides with other countries and international organizations. It will be in effect for a period of 5 years from the date of signing and will be renewed automatically for the same period unless one of the two sides notifies the other in writing through diplomatic channels 6 months prior to the date of expiration that it does not wish to renew it.

After the protocol was signed, Sa'id al-Raqbani praised the positive results achieved by the two countries in bolstering technical cooperation between them.

He expressed the hope that the future would see positive development in relations between the UAE and Austria in various agricultural fields to the benefit of both peoples.

Austrian Minister of Agriculture Gunter Heiden also praised the existing bilateral relations between the UAE and his country and expressed his own pleasure over the signing of the agricultural cooperation protocol between them.

The Austrian minister and the accompanying delegation left the country yesterday enroute back to his country after a 5-day visit during which he held talks with a number of leaders and senior officials in the UAE. At the airport to see him off were Sa'id al-Raqbani, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Hamad Salman, undersecretary of the ministry, Dr Peter Singer, Charge d'Affaires of the Austrian Embassy in the UAE and a number of officials.

8389

CSO: 4404/287

ELECTRIFICATION, WATER PROJECTS TO COST ONE BILLION DIRHAMS

Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 13 Feb 82 p 2

[Article: "Implementation and Completion of New Electricity Projects in Abu Dhabi to Cost 1 Billion Dirhams"]

[Text] The costs for electricity and water projects which will be implemented and completed in the new 1982 Abu Dhabi Emirate budget total about 1 billion dirhams.

This was reported by Sa'id 'Utayq, undersecretary of the electricity and water department in Abu Dhabi, who said that the department is making complete preparations to handle the increasing demand for electric power during the summer season.

He added that among this year's electricity projects is the extension of 220 kilometers of cables from the Umm al-Nar station to the gas turbine station in Abu Dhabi and the transformer station in al-Mushrif at a cost of about 750 million dirhams.

He said that these also include the construction of generating plants with a capacity of 500 megavoltamperes for the one station at the gas turbine station in Abu Dhabi and the transformer station in al-Mushrif.

These stations will have the power of 220 kilovolts and will cost 350 million. There will be an extension of 380 kilometers of 330 kilovolt cables in the area of Zayid City and al-'Ayn at a cost of 90 million dirhams.

Among the Abu Dhabi projects will be the construction of a total of 13 33-kilovolt class substations in Zayid City, al-'Ayn, Suwayhan, Bumarikhah and other areas at a cost of 80 million dirhams, as well as a project to run a total of 1,000 kilometers of 11 kilovolt cable at a cost of 80 million dirhams.

Other electrical projects in Abu Dhabi Emirate include the construction of transformer stations in the Sharq 33 and Gharb 9 area, besides al-Shurtah City and the special department. These stations will cost 50 million dirhams.

In addition, 33 kilovolt powerlines will be constructed to supply remote areas, such as Suwayhan, and to link the Zayid City area with the Liwa

area and to supply the residential area in Bumarikhah; this will cost 15 million dirhams.

Other projects include the supplying of a total of 1,800 transformers of various capacities at a cost of 70 million dirhams and a project to construct buildings, warehouses and a transformer repair workshop for the electricity distribution department in Abu Dhabi and the Shaykh Khalifah resthouse at a cost of 75 million dirhams.

Also included is the construction of 250 buildings for substations, 10 buildings for emergency centers and services for consumers in Abu Dhabi and outlying areas at a cost of 105 million dirhams.

There is also a project for replacing the lighting on Corniche Street and the old airport road at a cost of 7 million dirhams.

Sa'id 'Utayq said that there are a number of other projects which will be finished this year, including the construction of substations in Abu Dhabi at the powerhouse at a cost of 40 million dirhams, running 132 kilovolt cables from the Umm al-Nar station and the Gharb 24 station at a cost of 50 million dirhams and the completion of 22 stations in various areas and on the road between Abu Dhabi and al-'Ayn for electrical distribution at a cost of 110 million dirhams.

He said that these projects also include the commencement of the project to install 200 kilometers of powerlines at a cost of 35 million dirhams and a project to install communications gear on the 220 volt powerlines at a cost of 4 million dirhams.

8389

CSO: 4404/287



EXPANSION OF CORPORATE ACTIVITY, NEED FOR REGULATION

Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 16 Feb 82 p 10

[Article: "Regulation to Organize Operation of Corporations to be Promulgated Soon; Time Has Arrived to Establish Local Stock Exchange"]

[Text] Shaykh 'Abd-al-'Aziz Ibn Muhammad al-Wasimi, director of the economic department in al-Shariqah, stated that the establishment of a number of corporations in al-Shariqah had led to a noticeable economic revival of the emirate.

He said that money circulation and the sale and purchases of stocks had experienced a tangible improvement in the Emirate, there having been a spread of a number of offices which deal in these things and this has attracted a number of businessmen to invest their funds in al-Shariqah. He stated that the number of incorporated companies, banks, industries and establishments with stocks currently in circulation in the local market has reached about 35 joint local and Gulf establishments.

With regard to drafting a law or promulgating a regulation to organize and govern the operation of joint Gulf incorporated companies and establishments from the standpoint of capital and the percentage of shares held by citizens, he said that the Ministry of Economy and Trade had recently prepared a bill on commercial establishments and companies in the emirate and a committee had been formed to study it and to express observations on it. The committee comprises representatives from the Ministry of Economy and Trade and the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in addition to chairmen of chambers of commerce and industry in the Emirate.

The committee is scheduled to complete its study of the bill this week and it will be submitted to the ministry, along with observations and amendments proposed by the committee, so that it may be promulgated in the form of a law as soon as possible after referral to the quarters concerned for approval.

With regard to regulating the circulation of stocks, he stated that the law had successfully regulated the operations of this sector up to now, particularly by confining them to Emirate citizens, and this has helped to achieve a stable economic life.

He indicated that the law would include criminal penalties for persons who violate its provisions.

Shaykh 'Abd-al-'Aziz denied reports that stocks of fictitious companies or establishments were circulating in the emirate, stating that at times some companies make an announcement in the market about a stock issue on a specific project before the project is implemented. This leads to an accumulation of funds in banks at simple short-term profits, thus hurting the stockholder who participates in the project to get attractive annual profits.

He said that the economic department in al-Shariqah has begun to check out all necessary legal questions for current licensing of any company or establishment, including the period of time during which the company or project will begin operation, the capitalization, etc.

He said that he thought the time was ripe for establishment of the UAE stock exchange because the necessary components are available for the exchange, whether with regard to the sale and purchase of stocks or gold and silver and other materials, in addition to the presence of offices to act as middlemen between dealers in stocks, gold, silver and other materials and other exchanges throughout the world.

Shaykh 'Abd-al-'Aziz urged that this exchange be established rapidly so as to continue the great economic development the country has witnessed, particularly since this improvement has begun to experience rapid development in all economic fields in recent years.

He stated in this regard that having an exchange would permit the state to monitor fully the sale and purchase of stocks, gold and silver and various commodities and prevent exploitation and inflated stock prices. He also pressed for promulgation of a special law for the stock exchange which would define the powers, duties and work of the president and members of the exchange whereby the supreme authority over them would rest with the government.

8389

CSO: 4404/287

## BRIEFS

MAJOR OIL FIND--The Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company revealed a new oil discovery in the offshore areas of the UAE. This was contained in the company's 1981 report. The report stated that the discovery is located in the Umm Lulu area which is not very far from the coast and described it as "one of the biggest oilbearing formations since the discovery of oil in the Umm al-Shayf and Zakum oil fields." According to the report, the average production of the Umm al-Shayf and Zakum fields during 1981 was 228,000 barrels a day. The company, which alone produces about 460,000 barrels of crude oil a day, reviewed its operations and achievements up to the end of last year and stated that despite the average 10 percent reduction in the company's production in conformity with the government's oil policy, 1981 had seen a new stage in the intensive activity in construction, expansion and development. The report said that the total number of exploratory, production and water-injection wells drilled during the year totalled 250,000 feet while the number of producing wells during the same period totalled 163. With regard to the company's activities in training and the development of skills, particularly for local employees, the company has set up committees for skill development aimed at guiding UAE citizens and other Arab nationals who are acquiring the necessary skills and qualifying them to assume senior positions in the company. The report stated that this plan is being carried out through planning specialized vocational development programs for each person on an individual basis. [Text] [Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 10 Feb 82 p 10] 8389

CSO: 4404/287

POLISARIO FOUNDER TELLS OF ALGERIAN ABUSE OF SAHARANS

Casablanca MAROC SOIR in French 10 Dec 81 pp 1-2

[Interview with Polisario founding member Ahmed Mohamedi Larosi, by journalist Jacques Wiame; published in the Belgian weekly POURQUOI PAS? on 10 December 1981 and reprinted by MAP [MAGHREB-ARABE PRESSE]; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] Brussels, 10 Dec (MAP)--The Belgian weekly POURQUOI PAS?, in its 10 December issue, has published an interview with a founding member of the Polisario, Sid Ahmed Mohamedi Larosi, presently a refugee in the Netherlands.

In this interview, Sid Ahmed Mohamedi Larosi levels serious charges against the Polisario and Algiers.

Under the title, "Sahara: Snowless Siberia," the Belgian magazine says:

"It comes as no surprise that the Polisario should be a tool of Algeria, and by implication of Libya as well. One would be gullible to think otherwise.

"It also comes as no surprise to be told that the refugees in their tent camp at Tindouf are mostly Mauritaniens, Malians, South Yemenis, and nomads from southern Algeria, with very few true Saharans among them. They are imposters.

"What is absolutely infamous is that the Polisario, which is supposed to be defending the Saharan cause, should make itself the accomplice of a regime which perpetrates mass arrests, holds people in torture camps, and liquidates Saharans.

"Among those making such accusations is Sid Ahmed Mohamedi Larosi, 28, the former technical director of Radio Tindouf.

"A native of Laayoune and a founding member of the Polisario, he is today in exile in Holland. Wearing his hair in an unruly [lit. "acrobatic"] "Afro" style, lean as a desert animal,

he does not just describe when and how the Algerian regime infiltrated and annexed the Polisario political and military leadership, but goes on to accuse the Polisario of today, and Algiers as well, of herding Saharans into prison camps, subjecting them to "reeducation schools," and liquidating those not docile enough for their liking."

Here is the full text of the interview, recorded by journalist Jacques Wiame.

"I maintain that the Polisario no longer represents the Saharan people. The Executive Committee, the Political Bureau, the general staff—all are composed of foreigners with no genealogical ties to the Sahara.

"The current secretary general, Mohamed Abdel Aziz, is Algerian. The president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR), Mohamed Lamine, is a Moroccan from Tan Tan. Eighty percent of the members of the Political Bureau of the Executive Committee are either Mauritania or Algerians.

"Their presence in the Polisario's command positions proves that the Saharans are no longer masters of their own destiny. I maintain that the majority of the refugees in the camps at Tindouf are from outside the Sahara. They are nomads from southern Algeria, Mali, South Yemen, and especially Mauritania."

At Tindouf: The Saharans Have No Freedom

[Question] Why have you waited so long to denounce Algeria's hold on the Polisario?

[Answer] You forget that in Tindouf the Saharans have no freedom. No freedom of movement, no freedom of action. We were under the constant surveillance of Algerian military security. Even to go from one encampment to another, we had to have Algerian authorization. The real Saharans tried to reassert control over the Polisario. They formed the "Committee of 20," of which I was a part. They opposed the move by Algiers to make a non-Saharan the secretary general. But all who dared oppose the political and military decisions of the Algerian Government were arrested, tortured, eliminated, or threatened with the firing squad.

Lies and Impostures

[Question] When did you leave Algeria?

[Answer] In November 1979 I went to Geneva to get medical care, which the Algerian Government paid for. Once recovered, I became concerned about the fate of the Saharans being held in the Algerian camps. I called on the Polisario's secretary general to give them unconditional release, and to ascertain who at Tindouf were really Saharans and who were foreigners, whose presence distorts the Polisario's struggle. Abdel Aziz insisted that I return to the camp before negotiating. But I knew all too well the fate reserved for those who complain about Algerian authority and then return to Tindouf. I turned them to Amnesty International in Holland to ask that approaches be made on behalf of the Saharans held in Algeria.



The Polisario merely responded by saying I was lying. Lies and impostures: it is Algeria and the present leadership of the Polisario which is practicing these on a grand scale. But denying the facts will not acquit them.

What has become of Ikhal Ihana and Aini Babahash, representatives of the Saharan Red Cross? And Saraj Mohamed Jar, the Saharan teacher? And Salim Barka, an announcer on Radio Tindouf? And Abidat Sharif, the director of a refugee camp?

"We have never seen those people," maintains the Polisario. An astounding blindness! The Polisario itself published official photographs of these so-called unknown persons several years ago. Baba Hach, for example, is clearly recognizable in a picture taken of the Third Polisario Congress (26-30 August 1976) and distributed by the Algerian propaganda services. Saruj Mohamed Jar, for example, who taught in the camps, was filmed in 1976 by the Dutch filmmaker Jan Kees Van de Rooi.

All these Saharans have disappeared. Like hundreds of others. Are they still imprisoned? Have they been tortured? Or have they suffered the fate Algerian military security reserved for the Reguibat Salam tribe? That small group of Algerian Saharans (6,000 people) who refused to fight for the Polisario in Sahara was put in quarantine in Tindouf in early 1977. Then one fine day they were simply gone. And people were forbidden to ask about them.

The Committee of 20

[Question] How long has this enmity between Saharans and the Polisario been going on? When did the Saharans first get put in detention camps and become subjected to harsh treatment?

[Answer] There have always been numerous contradictions within the Polisario movement, because Algiers and Tripoli set the conditions for providing aid. But after Louali, the notoriously pro-Libyan secretary general, was killed in Nouakchott, the Algerians set out to get a tighter grip on the movement and imposed Mohamed Lamine as prime minister of the SDAR.

This decision, which was contrary to the bylaws of the movement (which called for election by the rank and file), flew in the face of the Saharans, for Lamine was not even a Saharan by birth. There was a revolt. Saharans of all tribes and ideological persuasions then elected the "Committee of 20" to discuss and make decisions on tactics and the political line.

It was at that point, in February 1975, that the Algerian authorities formed a Saharan military unit. And all the elements of the Louali branch, more than 200 people, were incorporated into it.

On 12 April 1975, that unit left Tindouf. Once out in the desert and far from curious eyes, it was encircled and disarmed by the Algerian soldiers.

I will never forget those 8 months in the desert. We had to dig fortifications, we were beaten with whips, we received very little food, just enough to keep us

alive. Those who did not obey quickly, who did not work fast enough, were executed. I still bear on my back the scars of their cruelty.

In December 1975, Algerian military security organized a "demonstration." A Saharan was picked at random and shot before our eyes. Then the Algerian officer gave this warning:

#### The Desert Gulag

"Those who talk about what they have been through or oppose our policy will suffer the same fate."

Once back in Tindouf, we were kept permanently under surveillance by Algerian military security.

In July 1976, we were arrested a second time. I spent only 24 hours in prison: the Polisario Executive Committee vouched for me: they needed me to keep the Tindouf radio station operating smoothly. As for the hundreds of other Saharans arrested, their whereabouts are unknown. Are they still doing forced labor in the desert, being whipped and tortured? Are they living or dead?

In Tindouf, no one dares ask any questions about it. People are afraid they will find themselves back at the "12 October School," a reeducation center where Algerian technicians practice brainwashing and torture with electrodes. A snowless Siberia.

#### Victims of a Scenario

[Question] What can be done for the Saharans?

[Answer] The international community must be informed. Justice- and freedom-loving people must be alerted. Humanitarian organizations must focus on the fate of these thousands of Saharan puppets, victims of a scenario which has nothing to do with their own real aspirations. In Algeria there are about 12,000 Saharans whose place of birth can be authenticated from the Spanish census. It is up to them to decide in what juridical and political environment they wish to live.

But the most urgent thing, the most important, in our view, is the fate of the Saharans held in Algeria. The international community must put pressure on the Algiers government to free the Saharan prisoners and clean up the situation in the field. In other words, they must separate the true Saharans from the Algerians, the Moroccans, the Malians, the Mauritaniens. Once these conditions are met, the international recommendations regarding Saharans can be implemented.

#### Arms Supplied by Libya

[Question] In Europe, we thought that with the OAU [Organization of African Unity] decisions and the referendum scheduled for 1982, the Sahara question was about to be resolved.

[Answer] In my opinion, which is shared by a number of other Saharans, the decision by the King of Morocco to agree to a referendum was a good thing. But it goes against the interests of the Polisario and of Algeria. This is why the attack against Guelta Zemmour was unleashed, with dozens of armored T-54's and SAM-6 and SAM-8 missiles. Never before had such sophisticated arms been used in the Saharan theater of operations. Those tanks and surface-to-air missiles were supplied by Libya and transited through Algeria. The latter is content for Qadhafi's regime to continue to finance the war, but does not allow it to have political influence within the Polisario leadership. Since the death of Secretary General Louali and the arrest of the members of the "Committee of 20," there are no more Libyan sympathizers in the Saharan liberation movement. Abdel Aziz, the new secretary general, was an unknown before Algiers put him in his new position. In Tindouf, the legitimate Saharans consider him a puppet in the hands of the Algerians and continue to suspect his involvement in the death of his predecessor. Between Algiers and Louali there was continual bickering toward the end. Who stood to benefit from his liquidation?

[Question] The Dutch branch of Amnesty International has launched a campaign for the release of the Saharans detained in Algerian camps. Is this an isolated initiative?

[Answer] This action by Amnesty of Holland is, I am convinced, going to lead to others, especially in Europe. At the United Nations, the Commission on [Human] Rights is going to take up the question. We, the Saharans who dissent from the Polisario, will not allow a curtain of silence to fall on the fate of our brothers imprisoned and mistreated in Algeria. For my own part, if I get the necessary assurances as to my personal safety, I am prepared to accompany any international mission of jurists to Tindouf. I am ready to go into the encampments and point out the real Saharans, the foreigners, and unmask the usurpers.

[Question] Have a large number of Saharans broken with the Polisario?

[Answer] Within a few days we are going to form an authentic Saharan front, because the Polisario, which has become a docile tool of Algiers' diplomacy and army, has lost its legitimacy and its representative character. This new popular and revolutionary Saharan front, uniting men from every tribe and of every ideological persuasion in the Western Sahara, will defend the true interests and aspirations of our people.

[Question] Looking at the breakup of the Polisario and its abrupt devaluation, I cannot help but think of those European parliamentarians who, out of ideological affinity or generosity, have supported the movement, thinking it was defending the cause of the Saharan people.

[Answer] Did they act from out of a common ideological interest, out of demagoguery, or did they allow themselves to be exploited by Algerian-Libyan propaganda laden with petrodollars?

In a deeper sense, that is of little importance to me. My point is that the Polisario is above all an accomplice of those who are oppressing Saharans. And my own sympathies are for the old people, the women, the children of the Western Sahara who have been the victims of a hegemonistic policy.

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